HOLLYWOOD | SCREEN-STAGE-RADIO | BROADWAY

VARIETY

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GIVE A STAR A BREAK

8,000 Druggists Insulted by Old Vaudeville Gag as Used on Radio

Chicago, May 5.

Radio entertainers are finding that their audiences are not becoming more sophisticated, but are constantly getting more sensitive. Ether ridicule has become the most touchy explosive of them all with more and more people suddenly getting notions that they, or somebody they know, are being made the goat. Dial fans take quick offense at what they believe to be slights to their religion, nationality, city, school, make of auto, political party, or the way they comb their hair. It may be just a yen by many to write a squawking letter, but the radio men can't take that chance.

It was thought that the limit had been reached when a local station drew more than 8,000 protesting letters when one of its entertainers cracked that he couldn't become a druggist because he didn't know how to make sandwiches. This gag has been used for years in

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MOTHERS RUIN CHANCE FOR GIRLS IN CHORUS

More new girls in New York seeking places in the new Earl Carroll, George White and Flo Ziegfeld shows than ever reported before. According to a checkup last week on the unusual number, the main lines must be running in excursions.

Most of them make for the different producers' offices without trying a casting office.

Among many noticed around were young girls accompanied by their mothers. The mothers did more to get the girls rebuffed on the first try than anything else.

Legit Coming Down

Cincinnati, May 5.

Legit stock at the Cox theatre, in the form of the National Players, has started to battle the picture houses on admission by advertising in this way:

"Live actors and music at the price of a movie-50 cents."

The Cox is a first class legit house and its stock uses the best play releases for that field.

SENTENCED TO FILM

Louisville, May 5.

Hoping that George W. Warren, 37, would benefit from the moral of a picture, Judge Neil W. Funk sentenced him to spend two hours viewing a film. Warren was arrested charged with drunkenness. He said he wasn't working but had been a soldier for five years.

"I am going to sentence you to see the greatest crime picture I ever saw," Judge Funk said, reaching in his pocket for a theatre ticket that he handed Warren.

Experience

A hosiery dealer who formerly angeled a number of Broadway shows appeared last week as a producer on his own.

But not with his own money. He found an angel.

AIR EXCHANGE WITH GERMANY

Berlin, April 24.

Negotiations between John W. Elwood, the vice-president of the National Broadcasting Company of New York, and the Reichsrundfunkgesellschaft, Berlin (Berlin broadcasting station) have been concluded.

Elwood left Berlin, after all points regarding an exchange of programs between New York and Berlin had been settled. The two Germans who carried on these negotiations were Dr. Kurt Magnus, manager of the Reichsrundfunkgesellschaft, and the former Secretary of State, Dr. Hans Bredow, broadcasting commissioner.

About 18 months ago a contract was concluded between the two companies which will now be realized. Toward July 15, the program exchange will commence.

Every three weeks a German hour will be transmitted from Berlin to New York on short waves and then will be relayed all over the United States. This is one of the best means of promoting friendly relations between the two countries, it is claimed. Famous German artists, scientists, politicians, etc., will be invited to talk to America. The Bayreuth festivals will be broadcast. Broadcast will be used to make propaganda for visiting Germany.

Free Girl Acts with Ad Truck Caravan on Coast

Los Angeles, May 5.

New type of outdoor attraction is being framed here by Harry Matthews, former Fanchon & Marco stager, who is building a 15-truck advertising show to carry 40 girl performers. These outfits will be rented to manufacturing companies for displays of their commodities.

Matthews is getting $75 weekly for each truck and its trailer. Trucks will form the sidewall of a tent, which will be a free admission affair. The 40 girls will do ground and aerial acts in the inclosure.

Outfit goes on the road May 20, opening at Ventura for a three-day stand.

IS BEBE'S PLEA FOR FILM ACTOR

Miss Daniels Says Producers' Attitude Toward 'Names' All Wrong—Are Signed and Dropped Too Fast—Material the Main Requisite, but Studios Won't Analyze—Ruin Spirit

'I WAS OUT—AND HOW'

Because a film star appears in bad pictures is no more reason for being "through" than a stage star unfortunate enough to get poor plays for several seasons. This hazard in a stage career is always recognized, excused and tolerated, but as soon as the picture star is not "box office" a few times, that's the finish or nearly so.

This is all wrong and is wrong because picture producers' entire attitude toward stars is wrong, says Bebe Daniels.

"The way producers find a person over night just because they happen to have hit in one thing is as ridiculous and wrong as the way producers kick out a star as

(Continued on page 12)

Goat Gland Med Guy, Aired by U. S., Goes Mex with a License

Galveston, May 5.

Dr. John R. Brinkley, "goat gland specialist," who was ruled off the air in the United States, has obtained a license to build a 50,000-watt station at Villa Acuna, Mexico, across the Rio Grande from Del Rio, Texas. Brinkley plans to sell medical advice over the air.

Formerly of Milford, Kan., the doc's license to practice in that state was revoked on grounds of fraud and unprofessional conduct. He operated a hospital there for years, making old men young with transplanted goat glands. Charges were made against him by Dr. Morris Fishbein of the American Medical Association.

Chaplin Snubs a King

Paris, May 5.

Latest move of Charles Chaplin is to snub King George.

Chaplin has refused to appear at the command performance in London, as his invitation was sent to the Hotel Crillon, Paris. Chaplin says that as he had already left and his movements are given worldwide publicity, the King or his secretary should have known better.

First Class Trans-Atlantic Travel 50% Off, and Little Hope of Increase

Paris in Panic

Paris, May 5.

Night club business here is so bad conditions are critical. No Americans, no money and grief all around.

Number of complaints recently that the Palm Beach Gold bar is serving cheaply adulterated drinks, despite fancy prices. At the Monsigneur, last year's smartest night club in Paris, talent is having difficulty collecting salaries.

That Americans have failed to materialize this season in their usual procession has even Joe Zelli, oldest of the night club operators here, worried. Joe is laying off all advertising and publicity for the time being and looking around into other fields.

Travel abroad from the U. S. fell off 50% the first four months of this year as against the same length of time in 1930. Steamship companies estimate the summer's decline will be another 50% under the preceding year. The drop in first class passengers going to Europe from Jan. 1 to May 1 was 7,000 on one of the biggest boats alone.

Paris has felt and will feel the lessened tourist trade from the States, Paris always looking forward to the chump Americans for its big clean up. The luxury reputa-

(Continued on page 35)

3 WORST SHOW TOWNS IN U. S.

A group of showmen decided last week that the three worst towns in the U. S. for show business are Memphis, Toledo and Birmingham, in that order.

The same men selected Detroit as the prize show town of the country with Chicago second, and New York third. Selections were made without regard to existing business conditions.

Memphis and Toledo are theatrically known as six-day towns, with theatres closed on Sunday. Another show day weekly wouldn't help either, it was agreed.

With these selections, St. Paul and Syracuse have lost their reps as the other Holy Weeks for the theatres.

Pulling Up a Chair

Hollywood, May 5.

Ranch Boys, air feature over KTM, announced that they would personally deliver autographed photos to all in this area who wrote or 'phoned. Result was around 1,800 responses.

Studio official thought each cow puncher could deliver 50 photos a day, and that the eight of them could clean up the work in a week. Boys don't think much of this idea, saying there's no use rushing in and out of houses without sampling the home made cake, etc. They now figure they won't be through until sometime in the summer.

VALLEE, SOLO, AS JUVE IN 1ST STAGE ROLE

Rudy Vallee, without his band, will be the juve lead and feature of the next White's "Scandals." He was booked for the show by NBC's artist bureau upon receipt of a release from picture house engagements by Paramount-Publix.

The placing of Vallee solo in the musical by NBC is with a view of building him up into something new in belief that Vallee has reached the top as a meg crooner. He's a juve type and will be steered into such roles by the broadcasting company in all his future stage work, besides continuing to double on the air.

Although on the other side of the operation fence through its connection with CBS, Paramount-Publix did not withhold its consent for Vallee's release to NBC for the stage show idea. It is understood to have been mutually agreed that Vallee will return to the picture house circuit for a time following his first show part.

Pope's Address on Disk Is Worst Bootleg Flop

Los Angeles, May 5.

Biggest flop in discs locally is a bootleg recording of the Pope's address in Latin as recently broadcast.

Local music and department stores each ordered around 100 of the records, figuring the Mexican population.

Five sales at one store topped the list, with several others reporting no sales, although the records got window displays.

FILM CRUSADERS

Burbank, May 5.

First National's racketeering series will be extended to "How Long?" Theme of the film is to be "How long is America going to stand for it?"

Plot is based on what might happen in the future if an aroused nation should decide to resort to measures other than the courts as regards the gang thing.

It's an original by Waldemar Young and Wilson Mizner.

Hollywood 'Honorary Stars' Salaried But Idle—Punch Drunk from Waiting

Hollywood, May 5.

Saddest or the softest spot in a studio—depending on how they look at it—is held by the 50 or more players drawing regular salaries on studio contracts but never given a chance in a picture. Every studio has a quota. They get a blare of publicity when engaged and are then forgotten.

Hardest work this faction does is pose for publicity stills. Some hang on through a couple of options without doing more than a bit.

This constitutes a break.

If the player is satisfied with a life of ease there's no complaint. Some take it philosophically and wonder how long the easy money will continue. Many, though, find it tough to wait. They call on the casting director, execs and others, and want to know why they're not working, why they're being kept on salary, and when do their careers start?

One girl has been under contract two years, put on as a sort of understudy to one of the studio's big stars. The girl has been attending dramatic and voice schools most of that time. The burning ambition to become a star herself, which she says she had when engaged, has changed to humble gratitude.

Desperate

She wants to do her benefactors favors. She asks if she can't pose for publicity stills, if they won't use her for stand-ins on the set, or any other odd jobs. She'd run errands if they'd let her. The girl's parts have been bits, far between. On her third option the studio is still promising.

Somebody thinks these players are okay or they wouldn't stay on, but directors and supervisors never pick them for parts of consequence.

As one of the buried said, "We're Hollywood's honorary stars."

DAISY DEVOE ON STAGE FOR GUARANTEE OR %

Chicago, May 5.

Daisy DeVoe, former secretary to Clara Bow, who figured in front page publicity recently, is being submitted here for either vaude or burlesque on guarantee and percentage.

No info made public as to what kind of an act the Coast girl contemplates doing on the stage.

Fox's 2 Unusual Films

Hollywood, May 5.

Fox is occupied at the moment in building two stories in unusual ways. One is being shaped around a title and another around old footage.

First chore assigned to William Anthony McGuire is to write a story around the title "She Wanted a Millionaire."

"Island of Desire," original Spanish picture by Dwight Cummings, will utilize a number of South Sea island shots made by Fox several years ago. Idea is that the story will be built around the footage they have so as to utilize all of it.

Lord on Radio Shorts

Another rural character for Radio shorts will be Phillips Lord from NBC. Lord broadcasts as "Seth Parker." Lord goes to the Coast in August, and Louis Brock will work with him on the stories.

Radio also has Chic Sale under contract for six shorts.

Deak Filmward

Another legit filmward when Lewis Deak, gen. mgr. for Edgar Selwyn and now in New York, goes to Hollywood. Expects to leave in about three weeks.

Understood that Deak will be a film assistant to Selwyn. Latter is with Samuel Goldwyn.

The darkest hour in any man's life is when he sits down to plan how to get money without earning it.

MR. AND MRS. JACK NORWORTH
130 West 44th Street
New York

A Blow

Hollywood, May 5.

Robert Gleckler, after a year of small and mediocre parts, gave up and started driving east last Saturday (2). Yesterday (Monday) Universal wanted him for a strong support part.

His agent is trying to locate him somewhere in South Dakota where he will visit on his way to New York.

Academy's Drive for Members—Agents' Request

Hollywood, May 5.

B. P. Schulberg and Academy officers are to be hosts to about a hundred newer film celebs at a dinner tomorrow (Wednesday) night. Affair is to be at the Paramount studios.

Speeches are to follow and invitations will be extended to join the Academy. This is the only way of gaining members and invitations are first recommended by a membership committee.

At an Academy board meeting, also Wednesday, it is expected that the agents' association will ask appointment of a joint producers' committee to codify agents' relationship and iron out existing problems.

Sure Publicity

Hollywood, May 5.

Pola Negri arrived Monday (4) on the Pathe lot. She announced she's not through with matrimony and is secretly engaged to an anonymous "big business man in the east."

Co-incidentally with her arrival here the local papers discovered that her late husband, Prince Mdvani and Mary McCormick were married in Paris 17.

Radio's Comics Create New Ticklish Situation

Hollywood, May 5.

The big o.k. given Robert Woolsey's "Everything's Rosie" at a local preview has caused a ticklish situation at Radio, as Bert Wheeler's "Too Many Cooks" did not fare so well. Studio is now considering cutting out the solo picture each is supposed to do on the year's program to prevent any come-down in the reputation of either comic.

Dorothy Lee will again be in the next Wheeler-Woolsey "Full of Notions," starting soon. Program calls for three pictures, with Wheeler and Woolsey teamed, in addition to the solos, now out. Miss Lee goes into all of them.

Young Beaton Dead

Hollywood, May 5.

Donald Beaton, 21, son of Welford Beaton, editor and publisher of "The Film Spectator," died May 3 from a lingering tropical disease which he had been combating for four years.

Young Beaton was an associate editor of "The Spectator."

Just a week before his death, Beaton's first book, "Who's Your Hero?" had been accepted for publication by Lippincott's.

Studios' 5th Deb

Hollywood, May 5.

Another society ingenue signed, making Hollywood's fifth, when Adrienne Ames was secured for Paramount by B. P. Schulberg after seeing her photographs.

Girl was previously reported having affiliated with Goldwyn.

WEATHER

London, May 5.

Heavy rain spoiled the week-end show biz.

Provincial influx was under normal and strong counter attractions in the sporting world helped pull matinee figures down.

Paris, May 5.

Rain helped biz a little over the week-end.

Couldn't make up for a very bad week though.

WILL MAHONEY
in Earl Carroll's "Sketch Book"
The Newark "Star Eagle" said, "In 'Sketch Book' you will find Will Mahoney grabbing off the applause in a manner that will leave you limp. His eccentric dancing is something that grows on the spectator and he climaxes the evening with his dazzling dance on the Mahoneyphone."
Direction
RALPH G. FARNUM
1560 Broadway

DIETRICH DOWN TO EARTH, TALKING

Hollywood, May 5.

Dressed a-la-Garbo, with pockets in her skirts, Marlene Dietrich is back and with a changed attitude towards newspapermen. To show how she feels she carries cigarets just for them, she said, despite she no smoke herself.

In interviews Miss Dietrich is gracious instead of her former high-hat attitude, saying newspapers misquoted her previously.

Before leaving Berlin, Miss Dietrich induced Paramount to purchase "An Entirely Different Woman," novel by Froeschl. Studio is preparing this as the second of the two pictures she will make during her present six-month stay.

Says she came here only to be directed by Jos. Von Sternberg, although she would like Lubitsch as a megger too, if he spoke better English. If the director's English goes haywire, she thinks, so will hers.

The German girl explains that her husband didn't come with her because in Hollywood he would be Mr. Dietrich. He preferred accepting a production job at Par's Joinville studios. Marie, her five-year-old daughter is with her but doesn't like either pictures or her swimming pool. She may do a bit in one of Par's kid films.

Von Sternberg is still occupied with cutting of "An American Tragedy" and won't be able to start on Marlene's next film for three weeks yet.

Russian with Hopes

Hollywood, May 5.

Boris Pilniak, Russian writer, is here hoping to connect in pictures.

It was at the welcome to America party for Pilniak that Theodore Dreiser took his sock at Sinclair Lewis.

Arliss Retiring?

Hollywood, May 5.

George Arliss, reports have it, will retire to England after one more picture for Warners, to follow "Alexander Hamilton."

"Hamilton" is now in work.

J. J. Murdock Back

J. J. Murdock reached New York Saturday from Hollywood.

He will remain east over the summer.

Eleanor Hunt's Shorts

Hollywood, May 5.

Eleanor Hunt, brought here for the femme top spot in "Whoopee," is at Universal as lead in Slim Summerville shorts.

Series of 10 will have Summerville playing the part of a marine.

Frantic Search for Stories Includes High Pressure "Politics" in the East

"Skippy's" Tragedy

Los Angeles, May 5.

Parental ambition for their boy as a screen actor ended in tragedy for a vaudeville act out here.

When they heard that "Skippy" was to be made as a picture the parents, then in the east, scraped enough money together to come west. There was no doubt in their minds that their child was the ideal personification of the kid character.

The day that Paramount sent back word that the boy would not do for the title part, the mother suffered a complete mental collapse. She is now in a sanatorium—it is hoped temporarily.

Fox-Metro Casters Looking Over Each Other's Minors

Hollywood, May 5.

Fox and Metro are co-operating more closely in an effort to put their minor contract people to work. These are generally the players whom directors and supervisors refuse to take a chance with by spotting them in their pictures.

To this end an exchange of casting personnel has been offered whereby Marcella Knapp, from Metro, goes to the Fox lot for a week to look over the neophytes and eastern tests. Last week Dave Todd, of the Fox casting office, was at Culver City for the same purpose.

Inasmuch as the Fox company is in stock control of Loew's, which includes Metro, the indication is becoming more active.

An intance is the use of Dorothy Jordan, Metro featured player, who recently finished "Young Sinners" for Fox and has been borrowed again by this company for another film.

Mobs' Boom Days

Hollywood, May 5.

Extras have been the busiest in three months last week; an average of 813 worked daily. This is only the second time in 1931 that extra placements have topped the 1930 average.

Biggest mobs of the week were 180 in a hospital scene handled by Raoul Walsh at Fox.

Carriage Trade

Hollywood, May 5.

With everyone in Hollywood owning a car, the cash and tarry-a-while girls have deserted the pavements to do their drumming from gasoline buggies.

They travel in pairs and no longer can answer to that old police court designation of "walkers."

It's all swank, even to engraved calling cards.

SAILINGS

May 15 (New York to London) Deno and Rochelle (Ile de France).

May 13 (New York to London) Mary Pickford (Bremen).

May 12 (New York to London) Roy Mack (Berengaria).

May 9 (New York to London), Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McCarthy (Leviathan).

May 6 (Paris to New York) Jed Harris (Ile de France).

May 4 (Los Angeles to New York), Elmer Rice (Virginia).

May 4 (Los Angeles to Trieste), Cliff Wheeler (California).

May 1 (Capetown to London), E. V. Schiller, Hill and Vizard (Windsor Castle).

April 29 (New York to Paris) Jane Wise (Deutschland).

April 24 (Capetown to London), Leon and Kiki (Kenilworth Castle).

May 8 (Paris to New York) Art Hadley (Lafayette).

May 14 (Paris to Buenos Aires) Argentine Revue Co. (Alcazias).

May 5 (Paris to New York) Mr. and Mrs. Martin Beck (Bremen).

May 2 (Paris to New York) Carl Robinson (Berengaria).

Story competition has become so keen among film producers that nearly everything now is bought before publication or, if a play, before production on the stage. Eastern story buyers are even going as far as to entertain agents in the hope of getting first crack at galley proofs, with several recent instances on the record where material has been bought after seeing the first few thousand words.

The company getting the fastest okay from the Coast and enough of an appropriation to buy, is the winner in this high pressure bidding. One of the difficulties pointed out is the competition among the producers themselves. Some of the lesser companies, unable to make an offer over the telephone on a moment's notice, have very little chance in this market. It is claimed by story agents that Metro is consistently the highest bidder, most of the story-buying being on the New York end and in the hands of officials who have authority to put through a quick purchase for this firm.

Heavy Politics

In no other branch of the business is the agent so faced with politics and "ins" as that surrounding the selling of stories for the screen. Many are the cases where studio story editors go far out of their way for an "in" with an agent in an effort to get a break for his company on available material, and material that has yet to be published.

Because producers feel that it is unwise to purchase stories or plays too far in advance, due to ever-changing public taste, many believe this must eventually lead to greater dependence on studio staff writers. Picture firms like to reverse the process by having publishers, or play producers, come to the studios and screen writers for their rights, instead of vice versa, as now, but that is the Utopia as regards this particular condition.

In Shorts for 10 Years, Kennedy Finally a Star

Hollywood, May 5.

Edgar Kennedy gets a star spot from Pathe for six two-reelers titled "Mr. Average Man."

Kennedy has been a featured shorts comic for 10 years.

Ill. Has Another Blue Nose Film Bill on Tap

Chicago, May 5.

Backed by political and religious factions, another state censorship bill is now up before the Illinois legislature.

If enacted this bill would subject every picture to such rigid censorship that it most likely would never see exhibition.

Preparing for Musical

Metro is expected to start on "Flying High" within 60 days. It will be the first musical in production for some time. Original plans called for using the stage cast, with George White as advisory director.

White is readying a new "Scandals," so it's doubtful if he'll go west during the "Flying High" session.

Hollywood, May 5.

Enthusiasts for the return of musicals are elated over one of the Radio convention reports.

Reported public demand for musicals of the whoopee type caused the happiness.

Buck Jones' $19,000

Hollywood, May 5.

Discharge of the Buck Jones bankruptcy attempt leaves $19,000 labor claims outstanding.

Mostly due to cowboys and Indians who took it on the nose when Jones' Wild West show flopped.

Dwan on "Wicked"

Hollywood, May 5.

After turning down two stories at Fox, Allan Dwan will direct "Wicked," using Victor McLaglen and Elissa Landi.

Start set in two weeks.

HAYS' ANTI-KNOCK SYSTEM

HIDE AND SEEK BY BOW AND OAKIE AGAIN

Hollywood, May 5.

Two Paramount stars, Clara Bow and Jack Oakie, have upset the production schedule, either through a walkout or letout.

Latter instance concerns Oakie, who while not completely ousted, is being taught a lesson by "Is Zat So?" being postponed. He and Stuart Erwin are listed as costarred with Frank Tuttle directing, for this film.

Reason for Oakie's disciplining is Par's refusal to concede to his new contract demands. Although sympathetic with the comedian over his obligation agreement with Wesley Ruggles, the producers do not want to incur litigation or publicity. Oakie has been staying away from the studio, so Par evidently has decided to let him remain away.

Clara Bow did her second run out in a week on "The Secret Call" yesterday (Monday) with an early release date to be met. Scheduled to start April 23, film was postponed when the star failed to appear at the studio pleading she was nervous and upset through a scandal sheet notoriety yarn about her.

B. P. Schulberg bur.ed and Miss Bow promised to start Monday (4) but made no appearance, whereupon the studio again called the picture off, ordering a search for the actress. She was reported in a Glendale, Cal., sanitarium.

Later, Paramount, when the dailies became inquisitive, issued the usual statements of convalescence, claiming Miss Bow had collapsed Sunday on the set during rehearsals.

This makes Miss Bow's second postponement, having been forced out of "City Streets" last winter during the Daisy DeVoe notoriety. At that time Sylvia Sidney was substituted.

The Bow film is also the first assignment Stuart Walker, eastern legit stager, has had as a director.

Rockne Family Will Share In U's College Feature

Hollywood, May 5.

After much indecision Universal will make "Spirit of Notre Dame," full length feature. It was on a flying trip west to discuss the making of this picture that Knute Rockne was killed.

Plan is to dedicate the picture to Rockne and give a cut of film's proceeds to his family.

As in the football shorts now being made by U, all exteriors will be made on and around the N. D. campus.

Richard Shayer, scenario chief at U, is now writing the "Spirit" script.

Hamiltons Adopt Kidlet

Hollywood, May 5.

Neil Hamilton and wife have adopted a seven-weeks-old foundling from a local institution.

The Hamiltons have been married nine years and are childless.

Col Takes Wayne

Leo Morrison has placed John Wayne with Columbia on a termer.

The college juve ended his first picture association with Fox, Raoul Walsh having given the novice the lead of "The Big Trail" as a starter.

With Columbia it's sink or film for the kid.

BACK IN 6 WEEKS

Mary Pickford, sailing May 13 on the Bremen for London, will return with her husband, Doug Fairbanks, in about six weeks.

Each will make a picture for United Artists' release during the coming 1931-'32 season.

U. A. Going Deeper Into Legit Phases, Signs Henry Duffy

Hollywood, May 5.

United Artists is going in for the local legit "showcase" in a big way. Film company has secured Henry Duffy, Coast producer, to become an associate picture maker and also mix on the film-dramatic production idea.

Samuel Goldwyn did the signing. He also has Herman Shumlin under contract to learn the picture business. In addition, Joseph M. Schenck's affiliations with Sid Grauman, at the Mayan, have already been responsible for the local productions of "Once in a Lifetime" and "Street Scene."

Duffy will most likely put on certain stage pieces out here prior to his own supervision of their filmization. Similarly, Shumlin will ultimately engage in local stage production of originals with a double view to shifting them east to Broadway following their local tryout and also testing the cast for the film transitions.

Shumlin's first assignment as a producer started this week. He is supervising "Unholy Garden" (Colman) and qualifies himself as regards last week's "Variety" story wherein he expressed himself irked with Hollywood idleness.

Shumlin doesn't deny that he was impatient with taking it easy so long, but now that he's getting into actual production, the producer of "Grand Hotel" is more keen about the idea.

AGENTS DRAW BY-LAWS, MASS MEETING THIS WK.

Hollywood, May 5.

The agents met last night (Monday) with a formal constitution and by-laws drawn up under the legal guidance of Milton Silberberg, locally prominent barrister, with a basic view toward house cleaning from within their own ranks. A mass meeting is scheduled for later this week.

Agents are commenting on the passiveness of certain other agencies, like Joyce and Selznick, which is watching from the sidelines and expressing mild interest in the effort by the Hollywood 10 percenters to amalgamate.

Move was prompted by manifestation of certain studio restrictions.

Ford on "Arrowsmith" With Colman for Goldwyn

Hollywood, May 5.

Sam Goldwyn is borrowing John Ford from Fox to direct "Arrowsmith," Ronald Colman starred.

Production of the Sinclair Lewis novel will follow Colman's next, "The Unholy Garden," which gets under way this week.

Sammy Cohen Marries

Buffalo, May 5.

Sammy Cohen, screen romeo, was married to Doris Roche here early this week.

Bride formerly appeared with Johnny Burke in vaude.

Contract for Heavy

Hollywood, May 5.

Leyland Hidgson has a contract by Radio.

First heavy in a long time to get a termer.

MUNI IN "SCARFACE"

Paul Muni goes back to pictures. He leaves today (Wednesday) for the Coast to do "Scarface" for Howard Hughes if negotiations are closed.

Muni was previously in talkers for Fox.

AL HERMAN AS YEGG

Hollywood, May 5.

Al Herman, from vaude, gets his first big film part as a gunman in "Gangster's Wife."

RKO-Pathe producing.

TEACHING PUBLIC INSIDE FACTS

Talking Pictures and Lecturers Over Country Before Civic Organizations to Bring Out Inside of Attacks on Film Industry —Anti-Knocking Machine Started

FAKIRS FOR COIN

It's time the public learned the real story of reeldom. Although the film industry is a good healthy 25 years old, Will Hays hasn't figured until now that the opportunity is ripe to give world fans the lowdown on what happens politically, as well as in Hollywood.

The story is replete with double-crossings, phoney speech makers, and poison darts aimed by picture failures into relatives, many of whom have political influence.

In fact, 90% of the squawkers against pictures during its quarter of a century are labeled folk with personal grudges or those who just wanted to make nuisance value money.

Filmdom's first complete and concrete crusade to exculpate itself and educate the world perspective to a universally higher picture plane entails:

(1) Engaging criminologists to trace to their source slurs at filmdom, and to widely publicize them.

(2) Dissemination of the truth of the industry through 500 film minute men, all executives or those long affiliated with picture business, to address organizations in all parts of the country on the picture gospel whenever the occasion arises.

(3) Making of a series of feature pictures to be projected in private organization halls with no admission charged and with one of filmdoms representatives on hand to submit to any heckling after the in-

(Continued on page 31)

King of Roumania To Appear in Film?

Hollywood, May 5.

Cliff Wheeler, indie producer and director, left here last week bound for Bucharest for a conference with King Carol of Roumania relative to the production of a picture tentitively titled "The King's Messenger." The King may appear in the film.

Wheeler, whose real name is Thurn-Taxis, is the son of Prince Alexis Thurn-Taxis, Italian nobleman, and through his father has obtained a concession from the Roumanian government for cooperation in the making of the picture.

Story is by Charles Webb and has an American and Roumanian background. Harry O. Hoyt, former Universal producer, is associated with Wheeler in the deal.

Tallulah's Long Termer

Holding an option for a second picture following completion of "Tarnished Lady," Paramount has placed Tallulah Bankhead under a long term contract.

As Miss Bankhead's second for Par, John Colton has written an original tentatively called "China." It will be made in the east, with Fredric March as male lead.

CALHERN FOR WB

Louis Calhern, legit actor, left Sunday (3) to do his first Hollywood picture. He goes to Warners for "The Correspondent."

A part in "Honor Among Lovers" at the Paramount Long Island Studio had been Calhern's only screen assignment.

Germany Gives Camera Cracks Billing and Sets Tough Example for U. S.

Hollywood, May 5.

Cameramen will campaign shortly through the Academy for bigger and better screen credit. American Society of Cinematographers will take the initiative.

Celluloid exposers' objection to being bracketed with set dressers, costume designers and assistant directors on the credit card has been mounting steadily, reaching the point where they are ready to step out and ask for mention alongside the director and author.

Cameramen point out that in Europe, especially Germany, photography gets equal billing with story and direction, and sometimes top credit. They cite as an instance Charles Steumer, who has recently returned from Germany, where he frequently had his name in lights and ahead of cast and everything else.

In addition to the claim that they are entitled to more prominent name spotting, lens adjusters say that with increased credit they will do better work, feeling that there is a greater responsibility.

Also revealed that most top cameramen receive fan mail from amateur photographers, mostly questions.

MOTHER CAUSES FADEOUT

Saw Daughter in Picture—Wired Her to Come Home—She Did

Hollywood, May 5.

A girl's absence from this colony has been explained through a wire from home telling her to return. It was signed by the girl's mother, and the daughter obeyed.

It's said the mother saw a picture with her child in it in the home town. She rushed to the telegraph office and sent the wire. The message seemed to confirm the daughter's suspicions about herself on the screen.

The girl is fairly well known in pictures. Her work had been the subject of much argument; some said she was an actress and others that she was lucky.

Mother settled all doubt.

M-G SEEKS M. C. TO SAVE $750,000 REVUE

Hollywood, May 5.

Metro is still scouting around for an m.c. to salvage its shelved musical, "March of Time." Idea is to string the revue scenes together with a story semblance.

Outside of a desire to reclaim the $750,000 so far blown into "March," Metro thinks musical revues are propitious again.

Sight Unseen Buy for Ann Harding by Pathe

Hollywood, May 5.

Ursala Parrott's next unpublished novel has been bought by Pathe sight unseen. Title is "A Woman Needs Love," and it's for Ann Harding.

This will follow "The Flat in the Temple," retitled "Devotion," with Robert Milton directing and beginning May 18.

Miss Harding's acquiescence to Pathe's terms is indicated, Hiram Brown to probably adjust everything upon his arrival here May 10 with David Sarnoff.

Wed 35 Yrs. and With 8 Children—But Divorced

Pittsburgh, May 5.

Harry Brown, manager of the Nixon theatre and married for 35 years, was granted a divorce here last week from Mrs. Gertrude H. Brown, now of Boston.

The Browns were wed in Buffalo in 1896 and separated here in 1923. They have eight children.

Balabans' Father Dies

Chicago, May 5.

Israel Balaban, 69, father of the seven Balaban brothers, died here Sunday (3).

The elder Balaban came to Chicago from Russia in 1880 and when his sons, with Morris and Sam Katz, became interested in show business, Israel Balaban helped them finance their first theatre. He was president of a west side synagogue. His widow survives.

Burial was yesterday (Monday) in Woldheim's Cemetery.

POGANY'S SON

Hollywood, May 5.

Willy Pogany brought here by Sam Goldwyn as art director for United Artists, brought along his 19-year-old son, John.

Youngster, supposedly here for a vacation, fooled his pop by landing as a junior writer at Universal.

Pollock Makes Costless Counter to $100,000 Bid

Channing Pollock, playwright, offered $100,000 under a writing contract from Columbia, made a counter offer. It was to work at the Columbia studio on the Coast for three months for nothing before trying his hand at scribing directly for the screen. Then, under Pollock's offer, he would write a scenario and Col could take it or leave it. Price for the scenario is not mentioned.

Counter offer is still unanswered.

Army Stude Graduates

Hollywood, May 5.

Capt. Fredrick W. Hoorn, detailed here from the Signal Corps as attached to the Academy of M. P. Arts and Sciences for nine months, has been ordered back to Washington.

Another Signal Corps officer will be sent out to learn about talking pictures by Major Gen. Gibbs, chief of the U. S. Army Signal Corps.

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Okay From Women's Clubs Means Flop Biz for Film; Even Ladies Snub It

Los Angeles, May 5.

Royal attitude of the women's clubs that what they say and do about pictures really matters at the boxoffice is ceasing to bother exhibs and circuits. It is conceded privately that women's influence is felt only in legislation and censorship.

Exhibitors have found that pictures given grade A by rating femme organizations usually are not attended by members of those organizations. The women as a rule prefer pictures labelled "not suitable for children under 16," or those not given a lily white ticket. It was a case says one producer, of letting the neighbor see the "worthwhile" film, while the film's praisers looked for something more interesting.

In many cases, exhibitors found, a notice that the local femme club had recommended a feature actually hindered business.

Stigmatizing "Lincoln"

One instance mentioned by exhibs was the run of "Abraham Lincoln" in Pasadena. The city censor went wild about the picture and of his own volition he made six speeches before women's organizations. He used his influence to get several laudatory editorials in the dailies and in other ways talked up the film. Manager, highly pleased at first, later the picture was the worst flop ever shown at his house because all the campaigning had stigmatized it as an educational features. Other localities reported the same trouble.

Reason for exhibs beginning to talk, although admittedly afraid of the women because of their stick, is that the small femme outfits have been after too many favors. Every time the grammar schools hold a contest or there's a church social or club meeting, exchanges are asked to contribute free rental of a picture. Both the exchange and the local exhibs kicked at this. Requests from the femme clubs are coming faster than ever and the industry's only way to stop it, exhibs say, is to kick the props of importance from under the clubs as far as the picture business is concerned.

Exhibitors still have a healthy respect for the power of the women's clubs, but when the ladies start talking about helping "put over the picture" it's a laugh to them.

Fox Stock Holders Will Meet May 15, Postponed 2d Time

The annual Fox stockholders meeting called for Friday (1) adjourned for the second time until May 15 at the company's home offices in New York. No reason given for the adjournment, although one report is that it is because the company's annual statement is not yet ready. No intimation as to whether the new board of directors had been completely selected.

Harley L. Clarke, Fox president, did not attend the Friday conference. W. C. Michel, executive v. p. and treasurer, presided with only around four Fox stockholders present in person. The majority were represented by proxy held by the officers. Meeting lasted around four minutes with the adjourning date about the only thing put before the body.

Trouble centres around the time that Price, Waterhouse & Co., accountants, were called in by bankers to audit the company's books. It was claimed by Fox interests that the P-W system of writing off films was in excess of what should be allowed. As a result other accountants were summoned to replace P-W.

This trouble looks to have been settled. An amortization period of 78 weeks has been agreed upon. How the various accountants' plans may have affected company's earnings is to be explained to stockholders at the meeting.

Par's Sp. Example

Hollywood, May 5.

Paramount is shipping a print of "Gente Alegre," local Spanish-made, to Buenos Aires for the Par South American convention in June.

Picture will serve as an example of the ensuing year's Spanish product.

CAMEO'S HARD BOOKINGS

RKO's Small 42d St. House Can't Find Foreign Films

Booking difficulties are again worrying RKO for its small Cameo theatre on 42nd street, long a problem. With no picture to stick in last week the house booked three Russian films on a "Russian repertory" week. All had been previously shown. Monday night (4) it was still undecided what the house would show this coming week, although an attempt will be made to go back to the regular full week schedule Friday (8).

With RKO holding its own feature films for its Globe and Mayfair theatres and its Hippodrome coming in for second runs, it has had increasing difficulty in finding product for the Cameo. Attempt has been made to book in foreign films, most of which, however, have failed to draw up to expectations.

COLUMBIA AND RKO IN PERSISTENT REPORTS

Columbia Pictures is persistently hooked in with reports that RKO is expectant of taking that company over in its entirety. Denials are entered by the Columbia's business heads, Joe Brandt and Jack Cohn.

That the rumors are stronger since Maurice Goodman became chairman of Columbia's financing committee means nothing to Brandt or Cohn. They say that Goodman is in Columbia to handle the finances and that's all.

Firmest story in connection is that RKO may buy out the Brandt and Jack Cohn interests, retaining Harry Cohn with his stock holdings as Columbia's producer. It is said a total valuation of Columbia has been set at $4,500,000 with the respective partners' share at around $1,000,000 each.

Reports from the Coast state Harry Cohn is again displeased over something with his company and has renewed negotiations with Howard Hughes. Also that the Columbia studio has offered to sell his Columbia share at under a million.

RKO has a product contract with Columbia. In it is a protective clause for RKO against Columbia selling control to anyone without first submitting the offer received or agreed upon to RKO.

M-R and Nat'l Screen Will Clash Over Trailers

With Advance Trailers removed as opposition through purchase by National Screen for a reported $290,000, another company with a $1,000,000 lab, doing everything excepting trailer work, is now going into the trailer field. This is the Meyer-Rieger firm, which is trying to cut in on National Screen.

Charles Welsh, who had his own trailer company, United, has joined Meyer-Rieger and will generally supervise the trailer end.

Five-Tongued Hays Rep Scanning All Versions

Hollywood, May 5.

The Hays overseeing of foreign scripts and films is now in the hands of John B. Wilson. Wilson has a command of German, French, Spanish and Italian and looks at all stories and completed films in those languages.

Col. Jason Joy, who passes on censor angles when they come up, reads German, French and Spanish.

Carrillo and Cruze

"Hell Bound," a Tiffany released talker opening at the Paramount, New York, Friday (8), is the first of six in which Leo Carrillo will star for James Cruze.

Carrillo's contract runs for two years, with open time, leaving Leo Morrison, Carrillo's rep., opportunity to place him elsewhere.

HARRY ROSE
"The Broadway Jester"
Headlining
Loew's State, New York
This week (May 2)
Direction WM. MORRIS AGENCY

SAVE $300,000 IN HANGOVERS

Around $300,000 in yearly salaries are expected to be lopped off the Fox payroll budgets soon when the management undertakes to discard certain hangover execs from the old William Fox regime.

Only one or two holdover contracts the management considers inviolable. Others are without contracts. Around six to nine executives are thus affected.

Several of these have not been actively engaged with the company for nearly a year.

No settlements are looked for.

PUBLIX CLOSING 75

Mostly in South—May Include Birmingham's Two for Summer

Approximately 75 Publix theatres will probably close down this summer. The number may even reach 100, but the latter total is doubtful at present.

Majority of houses going dark are those in the south and other localities which usually lock up every summer. Currently around 200 Publix theatres are closed. The new crop will be an addition to this sum.

Both Publix houses in Atlanta and Birmingham, recently thrown into double features, may be among those putting up the shutters.

Radio "Building" Kerr

Hollywood, May 5.

Radio is building Geoffrey Kerr rapidly, having assigned the new juvenile opposite Lily Damita in "The Sphinx Has Spoken."

Kerr's last lead was in "Waiting at the Church."

Accused Pathe Fire Men Bring Up New Point Against Indictment

A decision is expected early next week by John C. Flinn and Henry F. Talley, the Pathe men charged with manslaughter in the Pathe fire. Hearing was held last Friday (1) before N. Y. Supreme Court Justice Frankenthal in a motion under a writ of habeas corpus to dismiss the indictment against both on the ground it was illegally secured by District Attorney Crain.

Plea was entered by Nathan Burkan for Flinn and Frederic Coudert, jr., for the accused Pathe fire men that the District Attorney had secured the present indictment against them after a previous Grand Jury had refused to indict either. It was claimed the law demands that on a second indictment proposal the D. A. must obtain permission from the Supreme Court to proceed on the ground he has obtained new evidence not presented to the initial Grand Jury. This Crain failed to do and he did not present any new testimony to the second jury, it was alleged.

Appeals

Report is if Justice Frankenthal decides against the defendants they will appeal to the Appellate Division and again to the N. Y. Court of Appeals if all previous decisions are against them and permission to go up is obtained. If permission is refused, the defendants will have to go to trial in New York May 21.

Flinn and Talley were dismissed in a magistrate's court on the charge of negligence in the Pathe calamity, and again by the Grand Jury. With a clamor arising against the District Attorney, an indictment was then obtained from another jury, after the first had been discharged.

In his argument before Justice Frankenhtal, Asst. D. A. Benegas stated there were decisions bearing on both ends of the allegation by the defendants. The court ordered briefs to be submitted this week.

Just a Bad Break

Neither Flinn nor Talley was permanently stationed at the Pathe studio. Flinn had stopped off there on his way to the Pathe office downtown on the morning of the fire. While in the place and about five minutes after he had arrived the fire broke out. Flinn was supervising talking shorts which were under the direction of their producers. The short being made by Harry Delmar was under way when the fire broke out. Talley was manager for the Pathe studio in Hollywood. He was not in New York at the time of the fire. Neither of the men was an officer of the Pathe corporation.

The writ was sued out for the defendants to obtain a hearing after both men had surrendered to arrest. That was a necessary procedure to bring about a quick hearing. After the argument in court each was released under his former bail of $5,000.

TRANS-LUX B'WAY OPENING

Twin Houses Start at 25c—Now at Playland Park, Rye, N. Y.

Trans-Lux is opening its two newsreel and adjoining theatres on Broadway at 49th street (Lefcourt Bldg.) today (6). One seats 225 and the other 175. Each will have a 25c admission scale with about the same 35-minute tournover program. A specific difference is that smoking is permitted in one house.

This gives Trans-Lux three newsreel stands in New York at present. Its first is at Madison Avenue and 58th street, operating for about two months.

The only other Trans-Lux at present is at Playland, the Westchester County operated summer park at Rye, N. Y. It opened Saturday (2) with a capacity of 670. This is more than all of the seats in the downtown three Trans-Lux theatres. Trans-Lux calls the Playland house "The Roxy of the Trans-Lux Circuit."

In the park place a 40-minute bill is displayed containing, besides the newsreels, a Mickey Mouse and Fables.

ROBB-ROWLEY WEST TO CLOSE DEAL; 50 HOUSES

Dallas, May 5.

Hal Robb and Ed Rowley operators of largest indie loop in the southwest, left for Los Angeles to complete sale of their holdings to Hughes-Franklin. Reported that the R & R price is around $1,500,000, maybe more. The two pards were accompanied by C. V. Jones, auditor.

Final negotiations will likely include the entire R & R fold of more than 50 houses. At first the indies held out three houses.

Understood here that both Robb and Rowley will continue as execs under the H-F banner via contracts for several years. W. G. Underwood and D. Burnbaum, long associated with R & R activities, drop out.

UA Defers Field Force Plan Until New Season

United Artists has deferred until July the organization of a field force of permanent theatre contact men to headquarter around 10 key points. Decision was to wait until the new season's product would be coming along.

Three men had been set for contact posts, Arthur Zellner for L. A., James Ashcraft for Chicago and Norris Wilcox for Atlanta. Former two had even left to start operations. All remain on the UA payroll for special assignments.

Talkers and the Dunnings Have Made It Plenty Tough for the Stunt Group

Hollywood, May 5.

Talkers and the Dunning process are a famine for stunt men. Boys who for years earned a living taking the bumps are moaning over the lack of action in sound pictures. Or, if there are any hair raising feats, at the way they're being shot.

Once a good stunt man rated important jack for his work. Now it's nickels and dimes, if anything. Where a bumper could grab $250 for driving an auto in front of a train, he has to be satisfied with $50 for the same job today. And the guy who sits in the back seat gets only $15.

Boys used to charge $1 a foot for high dives. Now amateur divers will plunge all day for $25.

On air stuff diving a plane and wrecking it is the only stunt bringing real cash. Wing walkers and parachute jumpers can be had by the dozen, also at $25.

$10 Lion Trainers

Working with wild animals is also a non-profitable art. A $10 check will bring stunt men willing to pacify a lion for hours.

Best money away from plane crashes is shooting rapids. At Feather River Canyon are the fastest rapids on the Coast, and about once a year they're used in a picture. Every time a stunt man, or woman, goes through these waters it's $1,000 cash. Only one or two have accomplished the feat. Janet Ford, one of the few femme stunters in pictures, has made the river trip several times.

Old Guard

Miss Ford, Frank Parry, Gordon Karvath, Bobby Rose, Dick Grace and Dick Dickerson are about the only stunters now in pictures. Grace sticks to crashing planes and writing his experiences for fan mags.

At one time there were 100 men and women engaged in furnishing thrills for picture fans. Talkers and the Dunnings made most of them seek other methods of earning a living.

The few recognized survivors, those who deliver without any fuss or retakes, just about make enough money to wait for the next call.

WB Meets D.A.R. Edict On Filming 'Hamilton'

Hollywood, May 5.

In making a film version of the stage play, "Alexander Hamilton," Warners will go even farther than the play in whitewashing the lives of several historical characters. Due to the insistence of the Daughters of the Revolution, Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe will be presented as school book histories paint them.

Story the film will unfold was explained to representatives of the D. A. R., and its soft-pedalled condition okayed by them.

W. E.-Pacent Hearing Due in Buffalo May 15

Final argument in Western Electric's patent suit against Pacent talker equipment takes place in Buffalo May 15.

This will be the third decision on talker patent litigation so far experienced by WE.

W. E.'S 5,000TH

Western Electric this week made its 5,000th installation in the U. S.

This was the 1,700-seat Stilwell, Brooklyn indie.

FULL LENGTH AD FEATURES

Expect No Verdict in Suit Against Loew Heads Until Fall—Schenck Stays

With testimony and arguments ended last week, no decision may be handed down until fall in the suit brought in the N. Y. Supreme Court, by Edwin Stanton and Fred Warren, minority stockholders of Loew's, against Nicholas Schenck, David Bernstein, Arthur Loew and others. Action was to recover $9,000,000 allegedly unethical profit made by these Loew officers from the sale of their stock holdings to Fox Film in February, 1929.

Lawyers must submit their final briefs to Judge Cotillo by May 30. It has been indicated by both sides that following the decision an appeal is likely.

Meanwhile, it is stated Nicholas Schenck will not retire as active head of Loew's until he is 60. That's 12 years off. Until then he will retain his post as president of Loew's, Inc., which includes Metro. This indication, although unofficial, is authoritative. In a general way it includes the entire executive setup of the two companies as now constituted.

Principal point of contention in the suit is whether Schenck, Bernstein and Loew violated any fiduciary capacity, as directors of the company, when they agreed to sell their accumulative holdings to Fox Film without consulting, or notifying, the board of directors or stockholders.

NO LOBBY HOLD-OUTS, NO MORE LOBBY ACTS

Detroit, May 5.

Tracy and Duncan, originators of the lobby act, are also filling the role of the finishers of the same idea. They leave the employ of Publix at the Michigan theatre to go on as a sustaining radio program via WXYZ.

This act, the first of the vogue for lobby entertainment, is also the last used for lobby work exclusively. One reason for the falling off in demand is that the lobbies no longer are crowded with standees every night. Standees only on the week-ends as a rule, if then.

RKO'S DOUBLE BURN AT COL'S F-WC DATES

Hollywood, May 5.

Columbia's "Dirigible" goes to Fox, east and west, for release, and RKO is plenty peeved.

RKO also observes that despite its Columbia contract for product, and playing Col. features and shorts, the best Col.-released short, "Mickey Mouse," is distributed through Fox-West Coast.

Sleepy Syracuse

Syracuse, May 5.

Striving to build up business for Friday midnight premieres, Keith's is inviting all patrons of the 9 p. m. final show of the week to remain without additional charge for the owl screening.

Response thus far has been negligible, testifying anew that this is a 9 o'clock town.

RADIO'S STORY SCOUTS

Hollywood, May 5.

Betty Roberts, Coast scenario head for Radio, and Jane Murfin, staff writer, left for New York yesterday (4) on a story hunt, and to confer with Kay Brown, eastern scenario head.

Miss Murfin has been working on a screen adaptation of her play, "Women Who Take," which was put on at the Mason here, backed by Radio, and skidded. Studio is looking over the script for film purposes.

$2 House Contest

In front of the Criterion, New York, where Paramount's "Smiling Lieutenant" will open at $2, signs say that prizes of up to $50 will be paid to those who guess the day and hour of the picture's start.

Prizes are $25 to the first recorded at the theatre, with $5 each for the next five best guessers.

FIGURE 1c N. C. TAX CLOSING 80 HOUSES

States which tax the boxoffice will become the inferior centers of the country, and the majority of picture theatres in the U. S. during the past year realized less than 10% profit in weekly revenue. This includes theatres of all classes.

The warning to state governments is being issued by official film men. It follows immediately upon the heels of the adoption of the luxury tax in North Carolina, which claims one cent for every 10 taken into any N. C. boxoffice. Pointing out that this state will be enriched by about $350,000 through this new tribute from its 250 film theatres, picture industry's sages also declare that North Carolina can also lose that much or more.

Those familiar with the present N. C. theatre status calculate that fully 80 theatres in that state will be forced to fold because of the new legislation. Besides which picture companies will halt all building of new theatres.

South Carolina, Too

North Carolina is the second state to adopt the admission tax. Just 12 years ago South Carolina adopted a similar measure. Partially because of these terms, and more so than geographically in the reason picture executives declare that South Carolina has been practically abandoned by showmen. Today it is the poorest state from the entertainment angle in the nation.

The North Carolina tax is especially hard on the small houses as the one cent arrangement is such that while the big theatres pay out 10%, those theatres charging five cents have to turn over 20% of the gross as tax.

North Carolina is the only one of 31 states which at the beginning of their legislative sessions had admission taxes up for consideration. The remaining 30 rejected the idea of taxing the film houses.

Paramount-Publix has the strongest representation in North Carolina with 24 theatres.

Milwaukee, May 5.

With but three votes in its favor and those cast by farmer assemblymen, the proposed 4% tax on gross receipts of Wisconsin theatres went to quick oblivion to the tune of 72 to 3 last Friday (1).

Newspapers throughout the state went after it hammer and tongs, and theatre operators are again sleeping nights.

"SAINT JOHNSON" AGAIN

Hollywood, May 5.

Walter Huston will be starred in "Saint Johnson" at Universal ahead of "Boulevard."

Both pictures have been on-and-offers at that studio.

Borrowing Louise

Hollywood, May 5.

Anita Louise borrowed by Radio for "Are These Our Children?" Is Wesley Ruggles next meg effort.

REAL WORRY FOR FILM INDUSTRY

Manufacturers Planning Regular Feature Releases with Subtle Ad Plugs—Figure Indie Houses Will Welcome Revenue to Play Them — Using "Names" with First One Ready

HALF OF DUAL BILLS

Hollywood, May 5.

Commercially financed motion pictures are offering the first challenge to the film industry on its own ground.

Several series of shorts have already been made on capital supplied by national advertisers, but the idea is now extending to features. Makers figure these will be particularly acceptable as the second half of double feature programs.

These films differ from the so-called commercial and industrial pictures which are used purely for direct sales exploitation and sales instruction. The new type is made particularly for theatre use, the advertising plug being indirect, being confined to a quick mention of a certain product or subtly displaying labels in a picture that otherwise is a regular program feature.

Several independent organizations here have plans that producers feel threaten the present system of picture production and release.

5 Cents Per Seat

Already some of these shorts are being accepted by second and third run theatres throughout the country, the exhibitor being paid five cents a seat per night for the showings. The same distribution plan is figured for the features.

First feature to reach here for editing was made in Alaska, the indirect plug being for a fur company. Second is now being cast with a budget, cash for which is supplied by a tire company, large enough to permit a location trip to India.

Story and "Names"

In the case of this feature, everything possible is being done to make it acceptable for general showing. Story is by a recognized author and the cast will contain actual picture names. Entire production will be handled by men schooled in the picture business. The company putting up the dough will be satisfied for its part to have a few signs in exterior scenes advertising its tires.

The Double Feature Angle

With the double-feature an extensive policy the promoters feel that at no time in the history of the picture business was such an excellent opportunity being offered to break into the theatres, in this guise with paid advertising.

German Star in Person In Small N. Y. House

Franz Bauman, star of "Student Sein, Wen die Weilchen Bluehen" (To be a student when the violets bloom), German picture, which opened at the Little Carnegie, New York, Friday (1), is making a personal appearance twice daily with the film. He sings some of the songs in the film, also other songs.

It's the first time the Little Carnegie has played live talent. If successful, prologs may go in, despite restrictions of a very small stage.

Gardner's First At U.

Hollywood, May 5.

Cyril Gardner, at Universal as a director for three months, will do "Up And Up" as his first.

He was slated to do "Impatient Virgin," but since this was postponed he has been on the waiting list.

RKO Nibbling at All N. Y. Fox Deluxers for $7,500,000; Does Not Include Roxy, Fox, or Academy

House Staff's Bonus

Netting more for the United Artists' New York exchange than any other Chaplin, UA has handed bonuses on the 12-week engagement of "City Lights" to the house staff at the Cohan.

REVIVED DEAL FOR PAR-WB REPORTED

Renewal of the get-together deal between Paramount and Warners, broken when on the verge of consummation last fall following Par-Warner conferences, is reported warm. Status of stock in both cases and increasing manpower to maximum extent in Paramount are indicators not only to insiders but outside officials.

It is revealed that while the Warner-Par deal was near realization a year ago, Par increased its personnel much in the same way as it is now doing. The significance of this is that when the deal was called off Par eliminated many of the men it had added while the conferences were on. That the same personnel build-up is in progress at present, despite rigid economies being enforced in both threatre operation and production, is causing Paramount men to place credence in reports of another get-together.

Low Stocks

High parts of the industry see in the new low points reached by the stock of both companies the possibility of a trade arrangement. But this condition during the past week also had another interpretation.

J. J. Raskob's pull-out from the Warners is credited most widely with having contributed chiefly to the placement of the Warner pointage. The financier is reported to have sold practically all of his Warner holdings.

Warner officials remain non-committal on the stock status.

LOEW BOYS BUY IN ON BROKERAGE FIRM

Dave and Arthur Loew are reported having purchased an interest, as of March 31, in the stock exchange firm of Mervin Ash & Co. The Loew boys become special partners. It is unknown if they contemplate being active in the brokerage house. Both are officers of the Loew company.

Besides Ash and the Loews, firm members are Charles King and H. A. Greenhall.

Kravetz Out of H-F

Hollywood, May 5.

Max Kravetz, realty acquisition head of Hughes-Franklin theatres, is out.

Radio Won't Roadshow

Hollywood, May 5.

Radio won't roadshow any of next year's product. Charles Rosenzweig so announced the last day of the convention here.

Chinese and Cathay Circle, local $1.50 houses, have been squawking at the scarcity of roadshow pictures.

RKO aims to extend its neighborhood vaude policy and may take over all Fox deluxers in Greater New York on a straight buy. Purpose is to clear a local lane for non-competitive vaude spots in its own behalf. Proposed deal does not include the Roxy, Fox Brooklyn, and probably the Academy will also be excluded.

Proposals are only in the talking stage, nothing definitely being formulated except RKO's willingness to buy and Fox's desire to sell. The straight buy proposition by RKO is the most likely. Around eight or nine houses in Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx are involved for a total that may exceed $7,500,000.

Among the houses included is the Audubon, uptown spot. This theatre is direct competition with the RKO Coliseum, and both playing combo programs of vaude and films. If acquiring the Audubon, RKO is apt to shift the policy at one or the other houses to leave only one vaude spot. Similar policies may be aimed for other competitive spots acquired by RKO.

UFA ON B'WAY IN OWN THEATRE

Ufa has taken over the Cosmopolitan theatre on Columbus Circle, New York, legit house dark for many months. Ufa German talkers will be shown as well as Ufa versions in other languages.

House may not open for about six weeks, the theatre meanwhile undergoing alterations.

KENNEDY REPORTED AS FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Joseph Kennedy may return to films under certain bankers' plans now being formulated to slant the former Pathe head in a new capacity as financial advisor in one of the major companies. This company is one with which Kennedy hitherto has not been connected.

Kennedy is repped as peculiarly fitted for the new post by reason of his past experience in films as reorganizer of the financial structure of FBO, Keith's, and later of Pathe. The company concerned is one in which financial interests downtown are heavily interested.

According to present plans, Kennedy will not be the actual driving head of the company. Instead he will act as a cost control executive with veto power and second in command.

U's New Talent Weak

Hollywood, May 5.

Universal's recent hunt for talent hasn't bagged any prizes yet. Most of the possibilities rounded up are already using the second half of their round trip tickets. The lot regards the search, conducted in western colleges and stock companies, as a waste of time and money.

Kent Morgan, student at Utah Agricultural College, is taking a second series of tests, however. He may yet rate a job.

Vacationing

Betty Roberts, Radio studio story editor, and Jane Murfin, author, will spend a month vacationing in New York.

They arrive from the Coast this week.

A. P. Clips Drop Producer Mention in Retaliation for Studio Access Restriction

Hollywood, May 5.

The advertising war between theatres and the dailies here and the pass-rule at the studios is having a kickback with curtailment of local publicity breaks and cutting off of the studios' names from stories.

The "Times,' local leader in the fight to maintain raised rates for drama page ads, is not putting out its annual "Preview" number this year.

Associated Press clippings coming into the studios also created consternation upon discovery that the AP's reaction to the studios' pass rule was elimination of company names, also anonymously referring to the producing firms as "employers."

The fall annual depended on studios and film names for advertising. Situation is that the "Times" cannot now call upon studio help when it is slashing the studio names from all publicity and news stories. The "Preview" is a Sunday feature of the "Times" and is still being issued despite announcement of abandoning the annual.

The "Herald," p. m. paper, is another leader in the ad fight. Still carrying studio names, however, probably because of its Hearst ownership which almost makes mandatory printing the name of Metro-Goldwyn Mayer whenever it comes up. Using Metro, the paper could not leave out the others without showing its bias.

Grace Kingsley, who conducts the daily film chatter column in the "Times" is also twisting her stories so the studio name can be left out. She refers to a player's "employers" to get around it.

Studio announcements of next year's product, which have always received plenty of prominent space in the dailies and especially the "Times," were not in the latter paper, although the others carried them as usual. Only exception in the "Times" were the Warner Bros. and First National announcements which were run. Both local Warner theatres have not lined up with the other circuits in the ad war, and are taking the same amount of space in the Times" as usual.

Situation is tight from a publicity standpoint and comes at the same time as the introduction of new pass systems at the various studios which tend to handicap newspaper people gathering news. Newspaper correspondents, both local and out of town, are beginning to squawk at the restrictions.

Publicity departments are also howling from their end because the goodwill with the papers they have spent years in building up is being destroyed. The reporters object to being classed with peddlers, bootleggers, etc., in having the usual studio liberties eliminated.

Louis B. Mayer has requested that local theatres halt their advertising war against Hearst's "Evening Herald" and Chandler's "Morning Times." Advertising rate battle is claimed to be insignificant.

The Hearst-Mayer connections are thought to have figured.

N. Y. to L. A.

Louis Calhern.
James Dunn.
Joe Lewis.
Vic Shapiro.
H. G. Delabar.

L. A. to N. Y.

Mrs. Harry Arthur.
Thomas G. Arthur.
Oscar Oldknow.
John Sullivan.
Ben Hecht.
Jane Murfin.
Betty Roberts.
Pat Casey.
E K. Nadel.
E. W. Hammons.
Mrs. Sammy Lee.
Leland Hayward.
Ebba Havez.

Blystone's Visit

J. G. Blystone, Fox director, is in New York for a couple of weeks to look over the current crop of plays.

Zimmerman's Industrials

Hollywood, May 5.

Fred Zimmerman, former governor of Wisconsin, is here buying sound equipment for industrial films.

Will have his headquarters in Milwaukee.

GOV'T DEMANDS HEARING ON "INGAGI"

Washington, May 5.

"Ingagi" is in bad with the government. Federal Trade Commission charges that Congo Pictures, Ltd., the firm putting out this picture, "have been and now are using unfair methods of competition in interstate commerce."

Charges against the firm are flat and unequivocable. These include that the feature was culled from film libraries and assembled into a complete continuous film. Also that the newspaper advertising pictures, copy and reading matter "make many false, deceptive and misleading statements.

The government further charges that "some of the scenes were made in or about the City of Los Angeles."

All respondents in the case have been notified that the hearing on the charges will take place May 15 in the offices of the Federal Trade Commission here. No commission attorneys have as yet been assigned, nor has response been heard from Congo Pictures, Ltd., or any of the individuals named. These men include N. H. Spitzer, president of Congo; Wm. Alexander, vice-president; W. S. Campbell, secretary, and H. D. Smith, an individual.

The picture is still being shown, it is stated at the commission.

A REPORTER'S CHANGE

From police reporter on the New York "Evening Journal" to third assistant to Herbert Brenon, Radio director. That's Sammy Fuller's route.

Fuller will be with Brenon on "The Next Corner."

1st Runs on Broadway

(Subject to Change)
Week May 8

Paramount — "Hell Bound" (Tiff).
Roxy — "Young Sinners" (Fox).
Capitol—"Secret Six" (M-G) (2nd week).
Globe—"Virtuous Husband" (U).
Rivoli—"Tarnished Lady" (Par) (2nd week).
Strand — "Public Enemy" (WB) (4th week).
Rialto—"Indiscreet" (UA) (6).
Mayfair—"Bachelor Apartment (Radio).
Warners — "Capt. Thunder" (WB).
Central Park—"Tabu" (Par) (7th week).

Week May 15

Paramount—"Kick In" (Par).
Roxy—"Six Cylinder Love" (Fox).
Capitol—"It's A Wise Child" (M-G).
Globe—(Not known Monday).
Rivoli — "Tarnished Lady" (Par) (3rd week).
Strand — "Misbehaving Ladies" (WB).
Winter Garden—"Gold Dust Gertie" (WB).
Rialto — "Indiscreet" (UA) (2nd week).
Mayfair—"Bachelor Apartment (Radio) (2nd week).
Warners—(Not known Monday.
Central Park—"Tabu" (Par) (8th week).

$2 Pictures

"Trader Horn" (M-G-M) (Astor) 14th week).
"Dirigible" (Col) (Central) (5th week).
"The Smiling Lieutenant" (Par) (Criterion) (May 14).

Foreign Films

"Swei Herzen im ¾ Takt" (Superfilm) (German) (Europa) (31st week).
"Forsterkristl" (Transocean) (German) (Belmont) 3rd week).
"Studenten Sein" (German) (Little Carnegie) (2nd week).

Steamship Cycle

Hollywood, May 5.

Steamship locales are intriguing producers currently. One such picture is in production and two more are on the way. This is in addition to the many plots based on naval combat.

Fox has "Transatlantic" already shooting, Universal is preparing to make "Leviathan" and Warners has "S. S. Atlantic" on the horizon.

JULIAN ELTINGE

Who created a sensation at the recent Lambs' Gambol at the Metropolitan, his first New York appearance in three years. Eltinge is East arranging details for his next season's tour, doing a one-man show a la Ruth Draper—playing only matinees in the important cities. Beatrice Herford is writing his material.

William Morris is trying to persuade Eltinge to make a few appearances around New York before he departs for California, where he now resides and manages his highly successful mountain resort ranch at Alpine, near San Diego.

Hollywood

Briefly rewritten extracts from "Variety's" Hollywood Bulletin, printed each Saturday in Hollywood, and placed as a wrapper upon the regular weekly "Variety."

The Bulletin does not circulate other than on the Pacific Slope.

News from the Dailies in Los Angeles will be found in that customary department.

Marie Dressler—Star

Metro has "Emma" as Marie Dressler's next and first starring solo. Del Andrews is adapting this Frances Marian original.

Fox's Next Two

Dorothy Jordan, borrowed from Metro, goes into Fox's "The Brat," John Ford directing. Fox has also bought "Heart Break," 'Liberty" mag story by Llewellyn Hughes, Al Werker to meg.

Miss Jordan recently completed "Young Sinners" for Fox, and originally came out here for this company.

Roosevelt in Receivership

With a $1,200,000 bond issue outstanding, Hotel Roosevelt went into receivership. Minority stockholders are battling the Joseph M. Schenck-Lou Anger-C. E. Toberman administration.

Grad. Into Lead

Ruth Hall, college girl and extra for a year, gets the lead in Marx Brothers' "Monkey Business," Par.

Block-Fox Pfft

Ralph Block, Fox associate producer and writer, off the payroll following settlement of his contract.

Feature talker based on the life of David will be made by the Society of Religious Arts.

Boasberg Out of Radio

Radio is buying off the remainder of Al Boasberg's contract, good until October, because he sold eight yarns to outside studios. He wrote two originals and dialoged two for Radio.

Rice Back to B'way

Elmer Rice is returning to New York by the Panama Canal, having turned in his completed script on "Street Scene" to Sam Goldwyn. Will do a new play, "The Left Bank," in New York.

Al Cohn at Fox

Al Cohn is at Fox to adapt George O'Brien's "Wyoming Wonder."

Academy's Cameramen

M. P. Academy is organizing a photographic section of its technical branch. Art directors' section coming up.

Warners' High

With "Co-Respondent" and "Penrod and Sam" just started, Warner-FN has eight feature units and the Bobby Jones shorts active. A new high for the year.

Roach's 40

Roach studio reopened after six week's of being dark and starts a 40-short program. Marshall Neilan on the payroll as director.

Brodie-Discovered

"Misfit" is Don L. Brodie's chance as a shorts' comic at Universal.

Building Up Joel

Joel McCrea, borrowed by Pathe for "Common Law" and sought by Fox for "Merely Mary Ann," will get a stellar build-up when he returns to his home lot, Radio.

Costly "Blues"

Use of four bars of "Rhapsody in Blue" for a gag in the Marx Brothers' picture was okay with George Gershwin—for $50,000. Paramount voted for "Dixie.'

Pola's Tests

Pola Negri due at RKO-Pathe this week. Only thing set on story is it won't be about Mati Hari. Voice and camera tests come first.

Kurt Neuman—Domestic

Kurt Neuman, who directed Spanish shorts for U, will get a chance at domestic detective yarns. He's writing them.

On the Spot

"X Marks the Spot" is on the spot at Tiffany. Grant Cook thinks the story hasn't anything new. Phil Goldstone contends too much coin has been sunk in it to drop it.

60% Drop in Eats

Studio restaurant manager says that the ban on studio visitors has cut his gross 60%.

Ban on outsiders is being applied to business managers and secretaries installed by some studio execs and directors to handle side ventures, investments, etc.

Agency Merger

Agency pooling move in the Joyce-Selznick camp is still on the fire. Joyce-Selznick. Ltd., is one organization, Frank Joyce, Ltd., is another, and Myron Selznick, Inc., a third. All competitors.

Unfunny Shorts

To correct the retake situation on current RKO-Pathe shorts, Charles R. Rogers has ordered Lew Lipton to install a new stock of gag-men.

Clara Bow's Delay

Notoriety delayed another Clara Bow picture at Paramount. Star disappeared on the starting date for "The Secret Call" due to Girnau's arrest for stories published about Miss Bow.

Her last unnerving resulted in Sylvia Sidney's stepping into "City Streets." This time just a schedule delay.

Unoptioned

Dixie Lee checks out at Fox June 1. Option not exercised.

Par's Foreigns

Joseph Krumgold will take charge of Paramount's foreign production on the coast, as well as publicity.

Geoffrey Shurlock stays east as contact on foreigns, or else goes to the Par studios at Joinville, France.

Christie Up to Schedule

Christie comedies are cleaned up currently, the new product to start about June 1.

Hecht East

Ben Hecht completed his assignmen on "Unholy Garden" at United Artists and went east to await further calls from Samuel Goldwyn. Hecht's collaborator, Charles MacArthur, stays on for Metro.

Par Renews

Tickets issued at Paramount for Guthrie McClintic, who walked off the Fox lot a few weeks ago, and Ernest Pascal, writer. Par renewals for Norman Taurog, director, and William Slavens McNutt, Grover Jones, Joseph L. Mankiewiecz and Henry Myers, writers.

Vic Shapiro Due May 25

Vic Shapiro due back in charge of Fox studio publicity May 25. Coming by way of Panama.

Radio Drops Many

Many former silent picture names are not on Radio's new contract list released at the convention. Players missing are Evelyn Brent, Sue Carol, Betty Compson and Jack Mulhall.

Directors off are Herbert Brenon, Fred Niblo and William J. Craft.

6 Mos. Leave

Charles Boyer, Metro foreign player, has six months' leave to appear in a new Paris play.

Morgan's Stars

Dickson Morgan will bring Edith Barrett here for "Mrs. Moonlight" to follow "Shanghai Gesture," which moves to the Curran, Frisco.

Blaming Tourists

Alibi for low grosses at the Chinese and Carthay Circle, F-WC's $1.50 houses, is scarcity of tourists in California this year.

Florence Reed Testing

Florence Reed is being tested by Paramount for "Daughter of the Dragon."

Niblo Shifts

Fred Niblo, recently with Radio, to RKO-Pathe to meg "Iron Chalice," remake on "Red Dice," and maybe others.

Youngest Megger

Babe Stafford, 22, of which six were spent on the Sennett lot, has his first film contract to direct.

WB Poloists

Warner writers and directors have organized a polo team with Darryl Zanuck captain. Try-out game with another Hollywood group of canterers was a dead loss for the studio crowd. Best Arthur Caesar could make on the WB team was a sub.

Contracts

Option on Lionel Barrymore was taken up this week by Metro. His ticket calls for directing and acting, but studio doesn't plan to use him with a meg.

Polly Moran was handed a new five-year contract by Metro.

Erwin Gelsey, scenario head at Columbia, gets a second brace on his contract and a boost in pay.

Ben Hecht, five-year optional contract to write originals for Sam Goldwyn.

Ernest Pascal, novelist and adaptor, will write for Par under a new ticket. Studio also extended stretches to Norman Taurog, director, and William Slavens McNutt, Grover Jones, Joseph L. Mankiewicz and Henry Myers, writers.

Radio Pictures Studio Changes Looked for When Execs Reach West

Hollywood, May 5.

That a change is anticipated in the Radio Pictures studio out here is now openly talked about. Reports say again the change will centre around William LeBaron, at present Radio's production head.

This story gained substantial impetus and belief following the RKO financial statement for its first 1931 quarter last week. With that statement showing decreased net earnings over the first quarter of 1931, approximating but 44c a share with the reduction traceable, it is claimed, to the Radio Pictures end, it is now stated that when Hiram-Brown and David Saranoff reach here around May 15 action will follow. Roxy is to accompany the Radio heads on the inspection tour. It will be Saranoff's first Coast visit on behalf of his companies.

Despite having a gross rental on "Cimarron" of $2,400,000 amongst its first quarter rental returns, Radio Pictures is reported to have gone into the red for that period for over $200,000. The net as disclosed by the RKO statement last week, amounting to around $1,100,000, is said to have been earned solely by RKO's theatre department.

Board Discussions

Reports of the pending studio changes also followed the meeting last week of the RKO board of directors in New York. Radio Pictures, from the account, was right in the centre of the board's discussion. Its figures for the three months were analyzed by the directors who did not like the showing.

Wider Canadian Sales For English Talkers

Greater Canadian distribution for English made talkers has been arranged by S. W. Smith, managing director of British Lion Film Corp., who has been in America for the past two weeks. Smith sails for London again either tonight (6) on the Aquitania or Friday (8) on the Majestic.

Tieup arranged by Smith was with the Regal Film of Canada for distribution throughout Canada of Lion's own product as well as that of BIP and British and Dominion. He had authority to act for the other two leading British companies in the matter.

Smith has sold two Edgar Wallace stories to Columbia for filming here. Smith's company controls rights to all of Wallace's stories and plays.

Other things accomplished by Smith while here was the purchase of six Chadwick pictures for distribution in England and sale of "Should a Doctor Tell?" his own company's product, to Regal Productions, indie, for American distribution.

3,000 Miles for a Lesson

Hollywood, May 5.

Sam Morris, Charlie Einfield, Grant Sears and Claude Exell, Warner execs, are here for studio conferences following the San Francisco convention and Del Monte.

They will remain at the studio a week before going east in order to look over product and to ask Jones what's the matter with them.

Tiff Off "Spot"

With E. W. Hammons returning Sunday (3), Grant Cook remains here for three months in complete charge of Tiffany's studios.

A frantic search for story material is on, almost all scripts, including "X Marks the Spot," being discarded. Reason for the "Spot" non-production is the thought of the gangster theme being outmoded.

PAR RELEASES SET BACK

Paramount has set back general release dates on three of its pictures going out this spring.

"Night Angel," with Nancy Carroll and Fredric March, originally set for May 23, has been postponed with no date scheduled. Picture is behind in its shooting at the Long Island studio.

"Dude Ranch" goes from May 9 to 16 and Clara Bow's "Kick In," is retarded from May 16 to 23.

800-950 FOOT REELS

Academy Technicians Request Standard Reel-Length

Hollywood, May 5.

Request has gone out to maintain a standard reel-length of between 800 and 950 feet. Producers-technicians' committee of the Academy does the asking.

Action determined after discussing complaints from projectionists regarding "short" reels, many of which are under 600 feet and some of even 400 feet.

Studios are reminded that the odd reels are particularly annoying in small houses, that they mean more changeovers and that they also cause more shipping expense and represent actual waste.

NEW N. Y. FILM LAWS IN JULY

By July New York City's laws governing the film business, originally adopted 20 years ago, are slated to be revised. Precedent of the new regulations is expected to have a national reaction to the extent that other cities will copy the ordinances.

Several thousands represented in drapes and silks in New York theatres, illegal under the present ordinance, will be permanently secured, while theatre projection booths, now legally restricted to having on hand at any one time only 5,000 feet of film, will be allowed 50,000. Film exchanges will be able to house 300,000 feet instead of 50,000, according to the report on the new law.

Film executives, headed by Chas. L. O'Reilly, of the Theatre Owners' Chamber of Commerce, have been working for the revisement for 10 months.

U May Be in Both Rialto-Rivoli in June

Universal has set another of its pictures for Publix for Broadway showing. It's the Rialto in "Mother's Millions," following "Indiscreet" (UA).

New picture was produced by Liberty (indie) on the coast, but taken for U for world distribution.

There's a chance that U may be in both the Rialto and Rivoli at the same time with "Seed" at the latter house. That's a record for U and the theatres regarding outside product in these theatres.

Joins Par's Legal Dept.

Jacob Karp, attorney, has gone to the Coast to join the legal department of the Paramount studio.

British Influence

Hollywood, May 5.

Karl Dane, Danish actor, who found it tough sledding with a limited English vocabulary in talkers, is back in Hollywood. Out a year in vaude with his team mate in pictures, George K. Arthur, who is an Englishman.

Dane now talks with an English accent and Paramount has signed the pair for four shorts at $3,500 a week, starting June 1, in the east.

NEWSPAPERS GO COLD ON CONTESTS

Daily newspapers around the country are slowly tightening up on contests of all types. It has reached the point where the picture companies are looking around for other mediums. Ban in some cities is such that papers have agreed among themselves to use no more contests with film or other companies. Two such cities are Pittsburgh and New Orleans.

In these towns the papers have even agreed to eliminate subscription contests conducted by the dailies themselves.

Complaint of the newspapers simmers down to the opinion that contests have not only become a gag of late years, but that the character of the newspapers have been lowered by the inferior character of the contests as suggested and conducted.

Editors are taking the attitude that space is too valuable to be given columns to exploitation. Besides which the recent tendency to cut down on the size of the papers is another excuse advanced to those still seeking newsprint hookups.

A national magazine was recently offered a small sum by a picture company to swing a contest. Its answer was that the magazine itself spends 10 times as much for its own contests, and that until the picture people conducted contests on a similar basis it wasn't interested.

For several years certain newspapers in key centers have refused to accept contests of any kind. But even the smallest of sheets are now joining this line.

The film companies are finding a way out in some cities through tying up with radio, a field which regards the daily newspaper as its closest opposition and vice versa.

U Regionals May 8

U has set ahead its first regional convention to May 8 for the home offices. Carl Laemmle, on from the Coast, and Sol Lesser, here several weeks, will remain to attend the sales get-together.

Regionals in Chicago and on the coast, probably at San Francisco, follow the New York convention.

RKO Div. Mgrs. East Must Remain at Theatres Unless Called to N.Y. Office

All RKO division and district managers in the east have been shooed away from the home office at 1560 Broadway. They have been instructed to remain away and in their own back yards unless specifically called to the home office.

Move, it is said, was prompted through the belief some of the division managers have been trying to play politics in the home office, and as usual in those circumstances gumming up the works for several.

To avoid any such stigma, with RKO so far having kept away from any suggestion of under cover politics, the theatre department is reported to have issued the stay away ruling, taking in all of the eastern division theatre operating heads in order that the budding stools should be included.

Double Service

Heretofore, division and district managers have been welcomed at the home office where they called ostensibly for conference or advice. Some time ago it was found necessary in the main office to notify the visiting managers that they must remain away from the RKO bookers and booking floor. Each of the division managers who tried to make themselves ultra-important and wise under the eyes of their superiors sought to tell the booking office how it should operate.

With that source removed one or more of the managers, it is claimed, delved around to reach another listen-in contact where general information could be unloaded, the unloading manager hopeful that his load of dirt would eventually land him higher up. With a willing listener-in at the home office, the under cover stuff is claimed to have commenced to kick back in the operating end, until the order for the managers to remain away from headquarters altogether unless wanted there for some purpose.

Major Film Schedules Show First Increase in 3 Years at 398, But Usual 5% Will Not Be Viewed

Total U. S. feature production by the major companies for 1931-32 amounts to 398 features. This does not mean actual releases. It's the accumulative total of 11 of the principal companies. Past experience and custom, however, indicate that fully 5% of this number may never see the screen. All available product can thus be reduced to 380 features for the domestic market.

The 380 figure is below the total scheduled releases as of 1929-30, but represents an increase of seven films over the scheduled releases for the past season.

The list may be augmented by 14 small feature westerns planned by Universal, although these cannot be classed as single programers. Paramount leads with 70 as planned. Metro and Fox are next at 48 each.

The full number of features as scheduled by the individual companies for the coming season are:

Fox	48
Warners	35
First National	35
Paramount	70
M-G-M	48
United Artists	18
Radio	36
Universal	26
Pathe	21
Columbia	34
Tiffany	27
Total	398

This is the first season in years to show an increase in production, despite those who claim there's a shortage. The number has been declining year by year. A comparison of yearly releases by the companies are here tabulated:

	'28-'29	'29-'30	'30-'31
Fox	55	48	50
WB	36	41	35
FN	49	35	35
UA	15	14	20
Par	64	64	63
M-G	51	52	46
Radio	57	30	34
Universal	74	51	24
Pathe	28	15	15
Columbia	31	25	26
Tiffany	22	23	25
Totals	482	398	373

How production figures compare for the fiscal years of the same period is also analyzed as:

	'28-'29	'29-'30	'30-'31
Warners	26	45	37
First National	53	17	16
Radio	62	35	32
Universal	56	41	36
All Others	333	297	184
Paramount	64	68	64
M-G-M	52	52	47
Fox	49	53	48
Totals	710	644	503

Some Count 700 Features

On the other hand some officials of the industry estimate that the big producers will turn out an aggregate total of 550 features. Plus these another 100 are expected to come from independent ranks which may bring the total up into the neighborhood of 700 long lengths.

Following reports that Paramount may make 100 instead of 70 features, Universal officially revealed that it is prepared to add 14 features to its announced schedule of 26 if the trend is for over-production.

The build-up to a new high figure will be determined by the course double featuring takes. Certain production men fear that the two-for-one thing has gained such headway it cannot be stemmed except by feeding the public this policy until it sickens of the bargain entertainment.

Increase in production schedules to the extent required for serious entry into double featuring would be ruinous to show business, it is further warned by film men. The studios would be put on a half-and-half basis, with 50% of the features deliberately designed for fillers and turned out on old time quickie budgets.

Double featuring right now, it is observed by Hays attaches, is making itself felt in certain suburbs to the point where the first-run in such towns is losing its value. This, it is maintained, is another indication of what the industry will do to educate the public the wrong way if it takes two-for-one seriously.

"BIRTH" BARRED IN PA.

State Censors Upheld by Court in Injunction Application

Philadelphia, May 5.

President Judge Stern and Judge Gordon in Court of Common Pleas last week, after a hearing, refused the application of Culture Films for an injunction against the Pennsylvania State Board of Censors to restrain it from prohibiting the public exhibition of the picture produced by the plaintiff corporation entitled "Birth."

The board condemned the picture as indecent and offensive to public morals.

RKO-PATHE 1ST 5 BY LABOR DAY

RKO-Pathe will release its first own made talker July 10. Between that date and Labor day it will send four other starring features to the theatre market. Thereafter its release will be in order as scheduled.

The July 10 release will be "A Woman of Experience" with Helen Twelvetrees. On July 24 "Common Law" will be the second RKO-Pathe, having Constance Bennett as its star. Without order or dates the other three are to be "Rebound" with Ina Claire, an Ann Harding talker, and the fifth will be a picture starring Eddie Quinlan.

RKO-Pathe had not anticipated releasing over two of its first features under that brand before Sept. 1. First date had been tentatively set for between July 15 and Aug. 1.

Double Bills and Comm. Films of Little Help To Indies—Coin Scarce

Hollywood, May 5.

Threatened increased activity of the producing independents, to take advantage of the shortage in major studio features production for the coming season, has not materialized It's due to the difficulty of getting finances.

While Consolidated Lab has been inclined to let down the bars of late and extend the indie producers credit the lab wants to see where the money will come from in the end. In former days, all labs taking a hand in picture financing were willing to take chances as long as the negative remained in their vaults.

Indie producers, quick to edge in on anything new in the production field, have been propositioning most of the large manufacturing and oil companies on the Coast for the making of commercial advertising pictures. To date they have been unable to land any, due to the sales resistance created by the major studios, who are also a bit interested in the commercial side of feature production themselves. Most of the indie producers are just sitting tight for the time being, hoping that something will break.

Burton King, one of the old line indies, closed shop last week at Tec-Art, where he has been on and off production for the past eight years. This is the first instance of an indie giving up the ghost in some time. Most of them feel that the indie's opportunity is near at hand.

Florey Back with U

Hollywood, May 5.

Robert Florey, three years ago a gagman on the Universal lot, is back from France with a fancy contract as director for the same company.

Since leaving he has been directing pictures for Paramount in New York and latterly for French companies in Europe.

His first under the term contract will be "Frankenstein."

SHAPIRO WAVES IT

Vic Shapiro returns to his p.a. post at the Fox Coast studios Saturday (9) re-exchanging jobs again with Glen Allvine. Latter was on the Coast during Shapiro's sojourn east.

Shapiro is making the return trip by steamer.

London Is in Fair Shape, "Scandal Sheet" Beats $30,000; "Page" Looks Okay for Run

London, May 5.

Inclement weather, coupled with fair releases, has been helping West End picture grosses.

Estimates

Capitol — "Charlie Chan" (Fox) and "Mr. Lemon of Orange" (Fox). Opened to good business but dove; did $8,000, resulting in removal after one week; replaced by "Three Rogues" (Fox).

Carlton — "Morocco" (Par) terminated five weeks' stay, averaging $12,500 for run; now replaced by "Right to Love" (Par).

Leicester Square — "Beau Ideal" (Radio) and "Kept Husbands" (Radio). Fortnight's average, $12,000, and replaced by "Born to Love" (Pathe).

Pavilion—"Dreyfus." Now in third week, with first two week's average $17,000.

Marble Arch—"Song of the Alps." Terminated fortnight to $7,000 average; "Trader Horn" (M-T) replacing.

New Gallery—"More Than a Kiss." Around $9,000 and replaced by "The Ringer," a British-Lion product.

Phoenix—"Le Million." $7,500 and transfers to the Rialto May 10.

Plaza — "Scandal Sheet" (Par). Beat $30,000 and holding over second week; a third week also likely.

Empire—"Reducing" (M-G). Leads West End grosses at over $50,000 and held over.

Regal — "Criminal Code" (Col). Average gross for fortnight of around $14,000; "Skin Game" now current, with "Kiki" (UA) replacing May 16 instead of "Reaching for Moon" (UA), as originally contemplated.

Rialto—"Sous les Toits" and "Immortal Vagabond." After 10 weeks still grossing $5,500 with "Le Million" to replace.

Polytechnic—"Africa Speaks" (Col). A steady $3,500 here; now in ninth of 10 weeks' contract and likely to be extended.

Tivoli — "Sport of Kings." Had three weeks of steady income at $13,000, but "Front Page" (UA) now current; figures good for an extended run; reviews after trade show generally fulsome, although Atkinson, in the "Telegraph," declares that it grossly libels journalists, but maybe he never met a newspaperman.

Dominion — "City Lights" (UA) "Madonna of the Streets" (Col). In 10th week and now doing continuous performances at over $25,000; expects to continued for another 10 weeks, but doubtful.

B'klyn Eases, Tho Met Hints at Good $28,000

Brooklyn, May 5.

It takes a lot to bring the folks downtown these days, judging how the deluxers fall off when nothing sensational is offered. Plenty of evidence this week with all houses having but average fare.

George Jessel and a personal appearance at the Fox, yet receipts look very weak. Jessel has appeared around here frequently.

Estimates for This Week

Paramount—"Ladies' Man" (Par) (4,200; 25-50-85). Picture panned, and although effort made to build up stage revue with Rudy Vallee and 24 line girls, business disappointing; $40,000 in the offing this week. Last week Bill Robinson and Cab Calloway, with colored show, lifted "Dude Ranch" (Par) to nice $48,000.

Fox—"Doctors' Wives" (Fox) (4,000; 25-50-75). George Jessel in person but nothing exciting so far; should do around $25,000 again, weak. Last week Harry Langdon in person and "Quick Millions" (Fox) did around $25,300.

Albee—"Iron Man" (U) and Belle Bennett in person. Started off well and should get around $26,000. Last week, second of "Cimarron" (Radio), petered to $25,800.

Metropolitan — "Strangers May Kiss" (M-G) and eight acts of vaude (3,577; 35-40-50-75). Norma Shearer is local fav, so things should be looking up this week for $28,000. Last week "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath" (M-G) didn't mean much at $17,000.

Strand—"The Millionaire" (WB) (2,800; 35-40-50-75). Arliss always does well here, with beaucoup carriage trade to help; opened well and may get $18,000, which is good. Last week "50 Million Frenchmen" (WB) went the way of most comedies in this borough and ended near $13,000.

Futter's Shorts

Hollywood, May 5.

Walter Futter returned from the east Saturday (2) with contracts to produce 26 shorts for Columbia.

"1918" NO GO IN CINCY, "ORANGE"-PEG, $22,000

Cincinnati, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 700,000)

Cool weather is favoring the picture houses. Current week started brisky except at the Strand, where the German "Comrades of 1918" flopped and was replaced. First time a film has been yanked here. Midweek three-day showing of Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus expected to lessen cinema patronage.

Estimates for This Week

Albee (RKO) (3,300; 35-75)—"Mr. Lemon of Orange" (Fox), and vaude. With Peggy Joyce topping on stage looks like fair $22,000. Last week "It's a Wise Child" (M-G), $21,500.

Palace (RKO) (2,700; 30-50)—"City Streets" (Par). Heading for $16,000, fair. Last week's "Cracked Nuts" (Radio) also $16,000.

Capitol (RKO) (2,000; 30-50)—"Tarnished Lady" (Par). Tallulah Bankhead drew rave notices; on way to good $15,000. Last week "Born to Love" (Pathe), $14,500.

Lyric (RKO) (1,400; 30-50)—"Trader Horn" (M-G). Holding over to a good $12,000; same film $16,000 last week.

Keith's (Libson)(1,600; 30-50)—"Painted Desert" (Pathe). Corraling an ordinary $5,000. Last week "Don't Bet on Women" (Fox), $6,000.

Strand (RKO) (1,350; 25-40)—"Comrades of 1918." German war film no go on the Cincy front; pulled out after three days in favor of "Born to Love" (Pathe), a repeat; may climb to $3,500. Last week "The Prodigal" (M-G) drew average $4,500.

Family (RKO) (1,140; 20-35)—"Woman Hungry" (FN), and "Big Fight" (WW) split. Averaging $4,000 pace. That's slightly under last week's "Drums of Jeopardy" (Tiff), and "Man of the World" (Par).

Erlanger-Grand (1,600; 30-50)—"Vienna, City of Song." Approaching $5,000, same as last week's "The Song Is Over."

'Enemy,' 'Heiress,' Jones Only $9,000, New Haven

New Haven, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 300,000)

Looks like the town is fed up on gang films with two current ones failing to draw heavily.

Opening of the "Third Little Show," legit revue, will cut in on some of the film business this week.

Estimates for This Week

Paramount (Publix) (2,353; 65), "Tarnished Lady" (Par) and Publix unit. May go around $13,000, fair. Last week "Ladies' Man" (Par), $16,600.

Fox-Poli (Fox) (3,040; 65), "Shipmates" (M-G) and F-M unit. Looks good for nice $15,500. Last week "Trader Horn" (M-G) modest at $14,300.

Roger Sherman (WB) (2,200; 60), "Public Enemy" (FN), "Hot Heiress" (FN) and Bobby Jones short. Moderate for about $9,000. Last week "The Millionaire" (WB) and "Other Men's Women" (WB) finished strong to nice $11,800.

College (Fox) (1,565; 50), "Quick Millions" (Fox). Looks low for poor $3,000. Last week "Iron Man" (U) did a good $5,300.

Bijou (Fox) (1,536; 50), "Ten Nights" and "Stepping Out." Fair to $4,000. Last week "Gun Smoke" (Par) and "W Plan" satisfying on $4,500.

B'WAY'S SPLIT $5,000

Tacoma Quiet—2d Week for "Front Page," $2,000—Orph., $6,000

Tacoma, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 125,000)

"Front Page" is now in its 2d week at the Blue Mouse. First week wasn't sensational, but there was enough punch to show it would carry over.

Estimates for This Week

Broadway (Fox) (1,500; 25-60), "Stepping Out" (M-G) and "Lemon of Orange" (Fox). Looks fair for $5,000.

Orpheum (RKO) (1,500; 25-60), "Beyond Victory" (Pathe) and "Born to Love" (Pathe), with eight acts of vaude first half of week. Headed for $6,000.

Blue Mouse (Hamrick) (650; 25-50), "Front Page" (UA). Second week and looks like $2,000. Last week same film fair on $2,500.

Rialto (Fox) (1,250; 25-40), "Secret Six" (M-G). Looks like a good $2,900.

TONIGHT

The CHARITY CARNIVAL of 1931 takes place tonight in New York City—outstanding socially and an entertainment of highest importance for the elite of the world's greatest metropolis.

The dance music, as in many years past, is a MEYER DAVIS ORCHESTRA. This year an ensemble of 50 musicians.

$20,000 in 8 Days For 'Born,' Detroit, Spring Sun Socks

Detroit, May 5.

Warm weather is hurting business. "Born to Love" opened a day early and will wind up with a nice profit. Ruth Etting, at the Fox in person, is helping there while "Trader Horn" was brought into the State for a ninth week.

Estimates for This Week

Michigan — "Tarnished Lady" (Par) (4,045; 35-50-75). Name in this one not boxoffice yet, and heat no help; will wind up around $30,000. Last week "Shipmates" (M-G) did good $39,000.

Fox—"Quick Millions" (Fox) (5,100; 15-25-50). Ruth Etting in person the real pull here this week; but not strong for around $25,000. Last week "Three Girls Lost" (Fox) got fair $28,000.

Fisher—"Stepping Out" (M-G) (2,300; 35-50-75). Names in this an aid and will get about $17,000 and make a little dough. Last week "Tailor Made Man" $28,000.

Downtown — "Born to Love" (Pathe) (2,750; 15-25-50). Boxoffice title and Constance Bennett draw will get this one $20,000 in eight days. Last week, "Behind Office Doors" (Radio) poor in six days on $7,000.

United Artists — "Front Page" (UA) (2,018; 35-50-75-90). Holding fairly and will wind up near $17,000 on second week. Last week fair at $19,100.

Paramount—"Secret Six" (M-G) (3,300; 35-50-75). After big first week slumped and will be around $26,000 this week; last week big at $37,300.

State—"Trader Horn" (M-G) (3,000; 15-25-50). Ninth week for this one and still doing fair; will get about $8,000. Last week "Strangers May Kiss" (M-G) did only fairly at $8,000.

'KISS' JERKED IN 2ND PTLD. WK.–'SIS' $16,000

Portland, Ore., May 5.
(Drawing Population, 400,000)

The burg is burning, mostly with sun spots before the eyes, and that's bad for b. o. serenading. Hottest early spring since the last burlesque closed, say the old timers. Two day dust storm hurt biz some last week, but most houses are plugging extra hard this week.

Orpheum headlines its vaude and the 3,500-seat Paramount's comeback is to plug the F-M stage shows, stage band and concerts, but keeping the picture in top place.

"Strangers May Kiss" completely failed to hold up in its second week at the Fox Broadway and was pulled after five days. Hot weather also bumped Dufwin's stock some but not enough to hurt. House is due to close for the season around June 1.

Estimates for This Week

Paramount (FWC) (3,500; 25-60) —"Shipmates" (M-G) and F-M unit. Did seven shows opening day and looks good for $17,000. Last week "Finger Points" (FN) $13,500, fair.

Broadway (Parker-Fox) (2,000;25-60)—"Skippy" (Par). Well exploited and clicking for about $13,000. Last week second of "Strangers May Kiss" (M-G) pulled after five days and very bad $5,000.

Orpheum (RKO) (2,000; 25-60)—"Bad Sister" (U) and vaude. Strong near $12,000. Last week "Bachelor Apartments" (Radio) and $9,000.

United Artists (Parker-Fox) (1,200; 25-60)—"Trader Horn" (M-G). Held for third week; will do about $6,500. Last week same film $7,500.

Rialto (FWC) (2,000; 25-50)—"Woman Hungry" (FN). Doing fairly for this house, $3,000. Last week "It's a Wise Child" (M-G) $3,300.

Alder (Hamrick) (1,200; 25-50)—"50 Million Frenchmen" (WB). Around $3,000. Last week "Hell Bound" (Tiff) $3,500.

TOPEKA'S ACTIVE WEEK

"Honor" Over "Tailor" on $3,300—Baseball, Barrymore, Passion Play

Topeka, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 85,000)

Everything went big last week except the Freiburg Passion Players and the rep shows. Ethel Barrymore's one night at the Novelty drew capacity, or $2,600, with "The Love Duel."

The business done by Miss Barrymore thought remarkable because, in addition to Passion Play as opposition, it was the opening night of the local ball season. Two rep shows in town, the McOwen stock, under canvas at the fair ground, and the Rainbow Revue at the Isis, did starvation business. McOwens, instead of a summer engagement here, closes to take the road.

Passion Play went three nights and two matinees, averaging less than $1,000 a performance.

Estimates for Last Week

Grand (1,400; 50) (Fox), "Trader Horn" (M-G). Opened light, but enthusiastic comment built to just under $6,000, biggest week this year.

Jayhawk (1,500; 50) (Fox), "Honor Among Lovers" (Par). Did fair business first three days of the week, March's acting and dialog attracting attention. "Tailor-Made Man" (M-G) didn't do well despite favorable comment by critics. Week's total fair, $3,300.

Novelty (1,200; 35) (Fox), "Free Love," three days, failed to attract much attention, and only $325. "Painted Desert" (Pathe) brought total for week to $900, fair.

Seattle Loads 'Em Up on Long Shows, But Biz Good and Liberty's 2 at $7,000

Seattle, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 450,000)

Summer weather, with some rain at the opening of the week, is affecting attendance, but business has been holding up well at that.

Showmen are trying to choke quantity down the throats of the public. They seem to want to make 'em so weary that one show is all they can stand in a day—maybe a week. At some first runs if they get there at 8:30 p. m. it's nearly midnite when they get out—if they stick.

This week the Liberty is trying out double features for 15 and 30 cents. The Orpheum's eight acts are still liked, but they must be speeded.

Estimates for This Week

Paramount (Fox) (3,106; 25-35-50), "Finger Points" (FN) and unit. Barthelmess having tough sledding; looks bad at $11,500. Last week "Doctors' Wives" (Fox) good at $14,200.

Fifth Ave. (Fox) (2,400; 25-35-50), "Strangers May Kiss" (M-G). Doing well and seems headed for big $18,000, which will keep it second week. "Skippy" (Par) went slow last week and pulled after one week; liked but no punch, around $9,500.

Fox (2,300; 25-50), "Hot Heiress" (FN). Not good and looks like $5,000. Last week "Woman Hungry," six nights, around $5,000.

Blue Mouse (Hamrick) (950; 25-35-50), "50 Million Frenchmen" (WB). Biz up and headed for $5,200. Last week "Hell Bound" just fair, $3,500.

Music Box (Hamrick) (900; 25-35-50), "The Millionaire (WB). Arliss has his following and $7,400 indicated. Last week "Front Page" (UA), in second week, $4,250, fair.

Liberty (Jenson-von Herberg) (2,000; 15-30), "Sisters" (Col) and "Caught Cheating" (Tiff). Well balanced double bill; Sally O'Neil and Molly O'Day in one; Sidney and Murray in the other; seems headed for big $7,000; folks seem to like bargain and not particular about their time. Last week "Wings of Adventure," $5,800.

Orpheum (RKO) (2,700; 25-60), "Born to Love" (Pathe) and vaude. Ballyhoo big for Constance Bennett and film rather than vaude; about $12,000 this week. Last week with "Cracked Nuts" (Radio), $14,900; grosses here over-quoted lately, house averaging around $13,000, or slightly better, the past three weeks; this is under the eight-act overhead.

PENN SKIDS ON 'MATES' $23,500, 'IRON' $24,500

Pittsburgh, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 1,000,000)

After a severe letdown last week things started off promising this week. Ought to be a fairly decent showing, with possibly one or two exceptions.

Roadshow engagement of "Dirigible" is under way at the Pitt, but lasting powers of the air picture doubtful. "Iron Man" and return of Dick Powell, m. c., on stage should send Stanley up a bit to $24,000, while "Shipmates," at the Penn, hardly expected to better $23,500. "Gentleman's Fate," with John Gilbert, means nothing at the Aldine.

Estimates for This Week

Aldine (Loew) (1,900; 10-15-25-35-50)—"Gentleman's Fate" (M-G). John Gilbert a minus quantity locally; picture pretty drab and unlikely to hit $2,750, pretty bad. Last week "Stepping Out" (M-G) fair at $3,200.

Davis (WB) (1,850; 10-15-25-35-50)—"Kiss Me Again" (WB). Screen operettas n. g., and this one yanked after three days in which time didn't get $400; "Misbehaving Ladies" in today (Tuesday). Last week "God's Gift to Women" (WB) also off at $2,100.

Enright (WB) (3,700; 15-25-35-40-60)—"The Millionaire" (WB) and stage show. Arliss picture brought to East Liberty concurrent with second week of downtown run at Warner; off to flying start and should send this big neighb site up to $11,500 or better. Last week "God's Gift to Women" (WB) down to $7,500.

Fulton (Shea-Behman) (1,750; 10-15-25-35-50) — "Born to Love" (Pathe). Bennett picture panned by critics, but expected to pull the femmes and neat figure of $7,200. Last week "Gun Smoke" (Par) down to $3,500.

Harris (WB) (1,800; 10-15-25)—"City Lights" (UA). Second downtown run for Chaplin film not so hot; believed to have been squeezed dry in three previous weeks at Aldine; there may be $1,750 for it here, but doubtful. Last week "Connecticut Yankee" (Fox) about the same.

Penn (Loew) (3,300; 25-35-60-75) —"Shipmates" (M-G) and stage show. Robert Montgomery's initial starring picture causing no stir, and doubtful of beating $23,500, far below expectations. Last week "Front Page" (UA) near $27,000, good.

Pitt (Shuberts) (1,700; 50-75-$1-$1.50)—"Dirigible" (Col). Roadshow picture unlikely to stick more than three weeks at the outside; around $10,000 indicated for first week on strength of fairly good notices and strong exploitation campaign.

Sheridan Square (RKO) (1,800; 10-15-25-35-50) — "Born to Love" (Pathe). Femme trade particularly fortuitous at this neighb site; may reach above $4,500. Last week "Gun Smoke" (Par) down to $2,200.

Stanley (WB) (3,600; 25-35-60)—"Iron Man" (U) and stage show. Lew Ayres getting to be something of a draw locally and, backed by return to stage of Dick Powell, m. c., should climb in neighborhood of $24,500. Last week "Finger Points" (FN) not more than $22,000.

Warner (WB) (2,000; 25-35-50)—"The Millionaire" (WB). S ond week of Arliss picture will suffer a bit by being shown in East Liberty at same time, but even so will acquit itself nobly at $8,500 for six-day period. Last week, the first, swell at around $15,500.

'10 Nites' Near $13,000 at Met., Wash., on 2 Weeks

Washington, May 5.
(Drawing Population, 450,000)

Outstanding is what "Ten Nights in a Barroom" is doing for the headache Metropolitan. Picture is being held over and will be close to $13,000 on its fortnight.

Estimates for This Week

Earle (Warner) (2,244; 25-30-40-60-70) "The Millionaire" (WB) and Vaude. Ought to boost to about $17,000. Last week "It Pays to Advertise" (Par), did about $15,000.

Fox (Fox) (2,434; 15-25-35-60) "Three Girls Lost" (Fox). Phil Cook of radio, added attraction. Indicates not more than $23,000, fair. Last week "Doctors' Wives" (Fox) and unit about $25,000, okay.

Palace (Loew) (2,363; 25-35-40-60-70) "Secret Six" (M-G). Should do about $24,000. Last week "Tailor Made Man" (M-G) got $21,000, not up to previous highs of Haines.

Rialto (P) (1,978; 25-30-50-60) "Iron Man" (U). Will go to $7,000; oke. Last week "Virtuous Husbands" (U), $6,000.

RKO Keith's (1,875; 35-50) "Born to Love" (Pathe). Seems to be headed for $14,000. Last week "Bachelor Apartment" (Radio), $10,000, light.

L. A. Spotty, but "Page" Stays 5th Week and Jones Shorts H. O.; "Millionaire" $30,000 at 2 WB Houses

Los Angeles, May 5.

Spotty trade all over town. Two strong entries, however, are current in "Secret Six" and "The Millionaire" (WB), the latter forcing both Warner houses to break its day and date one-week policy and holdover. This sets "Public Enemy" (WB) back. Holdover decision was deferred until Monday afternoon, when early matinee trade forced additional week.

Criterion with "Secret Six" will do a big $20,000 for its opening week, including a new single day record of $4,800.

Outside of these, "Front Page" looks like it will be extended a fifth week and "Skippy's" lusty $7,000 at the Wilshire, neighb, the rest of the town is sluggish. With Arliss' second week, the first of the Bobby Jones shorts which ran at both Warners last week will be repeated by demand. Last week Jones' shorts were credited for considerable at the trade Downtown and Hollywood.

Fourth and final week of "Dirigible" (Col) bowed out with an anemic $7,600, leaving the Chinese dark until the end of the month when "American Tragedy" most likely comes in. House has three other pictures in view awaiting previewing as possible $1.50 attractions.

Estimates for This Week

Carthay Circle (Fox) "Seed" (U) (1,500; 50-$1.50) (3rd week). Under $11,000 to indicate that John Boles, in person, with songalog not much help.

Chinese (Fox) "Dirigible" (Col) (2,028; 50-$1.50) (4th-final week). Blowoff bad; house now dark, awaiting next attraction; $7,600 means echoes here.

Criterion (Fox) "Secret Six" (M-G) (1,600; 35-65) (1st week). Smash click $20,000; broke Sunday record; swell campaign lauded. Final six days of "Connecticut Yankee" (Fox) $8,300.

Egyptian (UA-Fox) "The Prodigal" (M-G) (1,800; 40-65). Poor at $2,300. Last week "Man of the World" (Par) over $3,000.

Orpheum "Iron Man" (U) (2,270; 25-50). Will just make theatre's break at $9,500. Last week "Last Parade" (Col) $5,700, poor.

Pantages (Fox) "Dracula" (U) (2,700; 20-40-65-90). With feminine antipathy to weird stuff evidenced by many walkouts, $7,500 bad. Last week "Dance, Fools, Dance" (M-G) $13,000, strong.

Paramount (Publix) "Ladies Man" (Par) (3,595; 35-$1). Opening day smashing but eased off sharply to management's surprise; under $19,000. Last week "City Streets" (Par) $23,000 okay.

RKO "Meet the Wife" (Col) (2,950; 30-65). At $12,000 pace about same as last week's "Laugh and Get Rich" (Radio) $12,600.

State (Loew-Fox) "Daybreak" (M-G) (2,024; 35-$1). Fair at $22,000. Last week "Gentlemen's Fate" (M-G) over $21,000.

United Artists (Pub-UA) "Front Page" (UA) (2,100; 35-$1) (3rd week). At $14,000 probably means a fifth week; matinees building. Last week over $17,000; "Dishonored" (Par) next here.

Wilshire (Fox) "Skippy" (Par) (2,296; 35-60). Got more first four days than "Prodigal" (M-G) with $4,800 entire week last week. Will hit over $7,000 this week.

Downtown (WB) "The Millionaire" (WB) (1,800; 30-75). Over $12,000 and nice. Last week "Misbehaving Ladies" (WB) over $7,000 and bad with Bobby Jones' draw evidenced by walkouts thereafter; Jones shorts holds over.

Hollywood (WB) "The Millionaire" (WB) (2,756; 35-75). Nifty $18,000 forces holdover; last week "God's Gift to Women" (WB) $9,000, poor with Jones' shorts also figuring as at the Downtown. Jones h. o. here, too.

CAN'T SPOT CARMEN

Hollywood, May 5.

With "Strangers and Lovers" wiped off the slate, Par has also erased the second story for Carmen Barnes. First to disappear into thin air was "Debutante."

Par has had the actress-authoress five months now and still doesn't know what to do with her. While Miss Barnes has started her 2,000th publicity "still."

WB STORY BUYS

Warners has bought the novel, "Manhattan Nights," by W. Almon Wolff.

Other recent purchases include "Top of the Hill," which Barbara Stanwyck will do, and "Mouthpiece," authored by a lawyer.

'Page' Looks Like $25,000 In Buff.—'Doors' $15,000

Buffalo, May 5.

Takings are climbing again this week. Good grosses are indicated all around.

Estimates for This Week

Buffalo (Publix) (3,600; 30-40-65) "Front Page" (UA). Started well and building on excellent publicity; may be $25,000. Last week "City Streets" (Par), $23,500.

Hipp (Publix) (2,400; 25-35-50) "The Prodigal" (M-G). Appears low geared to around $10,000. Last week "Cracked Nuts" (Radio) did $13,000.

Century (Publix) (3,400; 25-35) "Ten Nights in a Barroom." Mat business off but nights strong; may reach good $10,000. Last week "Father's Son" (FN), $7,100.

Great Lakes (Fox) (25-35-50) "Shipmates" (M-G). Nothing to brag about at $18,000 pace. Last week "Trader Horn" (M-G) held nicely for $22,000.

Lafayette (Ind) (3,400; 25-35) "Behind Office Doors" (Radio). Natural here and with great show should do nearly $15,000. Last week "Aloha" did well at $12,000.

Denver Likes 'Nuts' for $4,500–'House' $16,000

Denver, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 400,000)

Business shows an improvement in most spots this week.

Estimates for This Week

Huffman's Aladdin (1,500; 35-50-75)—"God's Gift to Women" (WB). An exception to this week's rule at $4,500 rate, poor. Last week "It's a Wise Child" (M-G) finished last week to a poor $5,000.

Denver (Publix) (2,300; 25-35-65)—"Finger Points" (FN). Will do a fair $16,000. Last week "Shipmates" (M-G) and Duke Ellington on stage boosted to $20,900.

Paramount (Publix) (2,000; 25-35-50)—"Trader Horn" (M-G). Second run after road show, and may edge over $10,000, fine. Last week "Front Page" (UA) fair with $8,600.

Rialto (Publix) (1,040; 25-35-50)—"Cracked Nuts" (Radio). Moving at fast pace and should hit $4,500. Last week "Right of Way" (WB) only $2,000.

Huffman's Tabor (1,900; 25-35-50)—"Widow From Chicago" (FN). Will show a weak $8,500. Last week "My Past" (WB) poor at similar figure.

Makin' Snitchin' Pay

Pittsburgh, May 5.

If curiosity upset a cat it also slipped Pittsburgh's youngest known racketeer $5.70. The street urchin stood near the Stanley's ticket window offering to tip off the "Take-A-Chance" program inside for a dime a tell.

That $5.70 was his first day's gross, but how much did the kid cost the Stanley? Stunt was not a success for the house.

MINN. ORHPH IS SNAPPY—$17,000

Minneapolis, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 500,000)

Olsen and Johnson, local favorites, in person at the Orpheum, are the only outstanding magnets this week.

New reduced prices have gone into effect at the State, Lyric, and Aster, without any appreciable stimulus of patronage thus far. However, it's too early yet to tell whether the revision is going to boost over the long pull. Publix closed one of the oldest loop theatres, the Unique, permanently Sunday (3).

Seventh Street closed for the summer Friday. The Century went dark several weeks ago. Pantages has been idle practically all season.

Estimates for This Week

Minnesota (Publix) (4,200; 75), "City Streets" (Par) and Publix unit. No particular names to attract and public pretty much fed up on gangster stuff; may not top $23,000, only fair. Last week "Skippy" (Par) around $28,000, big.

State (Publix) (2,200; 50), "Trader Horn" (M-G). Prices down 10c starting with this attraction, back in loop after $1.50 roadshow presentation at Century; about $11,000 indicated, good. Last week "Mr. Lemon of Orange" (Fox) around $8,000, pretty good.

Orpheum (RKO) (2,890; 50), "Bad Sister" (U) and vaude. Olsen and Johnson pack 'em in here; picture also pleased and ought to reach close to $17,000, big. Last week "Bachelor Apartment" (Radio) got around $12,500, fair.

Lyric (Publix) (1,300; 35), "Charlie Chan" (Fox). Mystery thriller may do about $3,000, light. Last week "Conquering Horde" (Par), $3,500.

Aster (Publix) (900; 25), "Three Girls Lost" (Fox). Looks about $2,000, fair. Last week "Ten Nights in a Barroom" around $3,200, one of best weeks of season.

Grand (Publix) (1,100; 35), "Connecticut Yankee" (Fox). Second loop runs. Will remain entire week and ought to be good for close to $3,000, good. Last week, first half, "Honor Among Lovers" (Par); last half, "The Southerner" (M-G); about $2,600, good.

Philly Sees Action—1st in Months; 'Svengali' May Hit $20,000, Earle $23,000

Philadelphia, May 5.

Some real activity is forecast in the downtown picture houses for the first time in a month or more. General jump in grosses is confidently expected. "Svengali," "Indiscreet," "Dirigible" and "Trader Horn" are among the films figured to get a good play.

The Mastbaum with "Shipmates" should get around $42,000. This is all right, but not what house can do when the crush is on. "Svengali" got corking reviews and ought to hit around $20,000 for its first week at the Stanley, but judging by recent Barrymore pictures, and the type of film this one is, it's likely to drop heavily thereafter. "Indiscreet" also won good notices and seems headed for about $21,500 for its first week at the Boyd. It should make the grade for a second week.

"Dirigible" is at the Chestnut as a road show, and doing pretty well.

"Doctors' Wives" will have an average week at the Fox on, perhaps, a little over $25,000. "Skippy," held for a third week at Keith's, the first picture to do so, likely to get $12,500 or better. Chaplin's "City Lights," in its second week at the Karlton, figures for $5,500 or $6,000.

Estimates for This Week

Mastbaum (4,800; 35-50-75), "Shipmates" (M-G). Popularity of Robert Montgomery with femmes figured as draw; probably $42,000, neat but not gaudy. Last week "Iron Man" (U) and Horace Heidt's band, about $43,000.

Stanley (3,700; 35-50-75), "Svengali" (WB). Barrymore picture should have strong first week with chances thereafter more doubtful; $20,000 indicated. "Finger Points" (FN) didn't recover after bad start and never in running last week at under $14,000.

Fox (3,000; 35-50-75), "Doctors' Wives" (Fox). Average week indicated at about $25,500. Last week "Not Exactly Gentlemen" (Fox) weak on $24,000.

Keith's (1,800; 35-50-75), "Skippy" (Par). Should get $12,500 or better in third week; beat $16,000 last week.

Chestnut (1,800; $1.50), "Dirigible" (Col) (1st week). Road show picture opened Monday (4) and doing fairly.

Boyd (2,400; 35-50-75), "Indiscreet" (UA). Gloria Swanson got good notices and was off to a strong start; $21,500 or little better indicated. Last week "Born to Love" (Pathe), in second week, claimed $14,000.

Stanton (1,700; 25-65), "Trader Horn" (M-G). Second downtown showing started well and may do $12,000. "Drums of Jeopardy" (Tiff) got $10,000 last week.

Karlton (1,000; 50), "City Lights" (UA). Chaplin picture should gross around $5,500 in second week; near $8,000 last week.

Earle (2,000; 25-65), "Sin Ship" (Radio) and vaude. Near $23,000; eight-act vaude policy very successful. Last week over $24,000 on "Subway Express" (Col).

Arcadia (600; 50), "Royal Family" (Par). Looks like about $3,500; "Unfaithful" (Par) got about same figure last week.

Few Sparkle on B'way Despite Bulbs—Par Plucks "Dude Ranch" On 6-Day $35,500; "Svengali" $35,000

It's been cool with some rain but that spring fever is still around. Although maybe the boys can split the blame between love's young dream and the calibre of product that's been rushing through the projectors. Anyway, with few exceptions, business in the film theatres is very good for baseball and wrestling.

One current topic is the Paramount's approximate new low of $35,500 for "Dude Ranch." That happened last week, but the picture was plucked after six days to let "Ladies' Man" come in, which does not look so forte either, so the figure can't officially class as bottom. Meanwhile, the Strand, Capitol and Hollywood are doing all right.

The Strand is into a second week of what is expected to be a month for "Public Enemy," and should get around $40,000 this week. The Capitol is counting on $80,000, meaning a holdover, for "Secret Six" and the Hollywood is lighted up after an Arctic winter for "Svengali." House seems on its way to $35,000, maybe a bit better. In the cases of the Strand and Hollywood the Bobby Jones shorts are a factor but to what extent has not been determined as yet.

The Winter Garden is getting ready to bid Arliss adieu in favor of "Gold Dust Gertie," Winnie Lightner, and is also playing the Jones reel, while "Gun Smoke" has not had a happy stay at the Rialto and will be glad to make way for "Indiscreet" tonight (Wednesday).

The Roxy won't go much beyond $60,000 this week on "Three Girls Lost" and "Born To Love" will have to battle to shake $25,000 by the hand on this, it's second week at the Mayfair. Tallulah Bankhead had a swank opening at the Rivoli for "Tarnished Lady" but the follow through is faulty and it looks like sand trap trouble will keep it from beating $30,000. That's not a good opening stanza at this spot.

Estimates for This Week

Astor (1,120; $1-$2) "Trader Horn" (M-G) (14th week). Staying on but can blow anytime if there's anything to come in.

Capitol (5,400; 25-35-$1.50) "Secret Six" (M-G) (1st week). Gangster film opened well and expects $80,000; will hold over. Last week, "Tailor Made Man" (M-G) poor at $55,500.

Hollywood (1,800; 65-85) "Svengali" (WB) (1st week). Picture has started all right but drew mixed reviews. Looks around $35,000 this week, with Bobby Jones short no hindrance.

Central (916; $1-$2) "Dirigible" (Col) (5th week). Going along around $9,000 and waiting for the fleet to come in; will linger a couple of more weeks.

Globe (1,065; 50-75) "Subway Express" (Col). Doing fairly at $15,000 rate. Last week, second of "Iron Man" (U), only $10,000.

Mayfair (2,200; 40-$1), "Born to Love" (Pathe) (2d week. Big femme draw helped this one to hold second week; bows out currently after expected $30,000. Last week $40,000 in eight days.

Paramount (3,664; 65-85-$1), "Ladies' Man" (Par). Not proving very healthy and may not reach above $52,000. Last week "Dude Ranch" (Par) jerked after six days; established new low of $35,500.

Rialto (2,000; 40-65-85-$1), "Gun Smoke" (Par) (2d week). Exits today (Wednesday) for "Indiscreet" (UA); about $12,500 on exit, which is poor. Last week, $27,500, also weak.

Rivoli (2,200; 40-65-85-$1), "Tarnished Lady" (Par). Tallulah Bankhead's film debut lucky to reach $30,000. Last week, final and sixth of "Front Page" (UA), $19,800, okay.

Roxy (6,200; 50-75-$1.50), "Three Girls Lost" (Fox). Looks weak and lucky to reach $60,000 currently. Last week "Doctors' Wives" (Fox), aided by new style stage show, $81,600, not bad.

Strand (2,900; 25-50-75), "Public Enemy" (WB) (2d week). Smash film drawing heavily; counting on four weeks; currently looks around $40,000; big male draw and last week $58,400 on full week; Bobby Jones short here, too.

Warners (1,100; 50-75), "Too Young to Marry" (WB). Weak and looks hardly to reach $4,000. Last week "The Flood" (Col), $3,000. House may go dark any time.

Winter Garden (1,418; 35-85-$1), "The Millionaire" (WB) (4th week). Arliss feature easing easily; "Gold Dust Gertie" (WB) slated around May 15; maybe $18,000 this week; with the Jones golf spool in its third Broadway spot here, around $22,000 last week.

Stages Aiding 2 Spots, Indianapolis Up, $21,000

Indianapolis, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 450,000)

The Indiana is staging a comeback this week and may see its best figure in recent months.

Cool weather is also helping, but there are gang pictures at the Indiana, Apollo, and Palace.

Estimates for This Week

Indiana (Publix) 3,300; 35-50-65), "City Streets" (Par). Another gang film but with a stage show. Picking up for $21,000.

Circle (Publix) (2,600; 25-40-50), "Iron Man" (U) and "Beyond Victory" (Radio). Double feature wears them out; fair at $8,000.

Loew's Palace (Loew's) (2,800; 25-35-50), "Secret Six" (M-G). Ought to get $10,000, fair.

Apollo (4th Ave.) (1,100; 25-35-50), "Hell Bound" (Tiff). Fair at $5,000 pace.

Lyric (4th Ave.) (2,000; 25-35-50), "Meet the Wife" (Col). Stock favorites held second week on stage; fair at $10,000.

Ohio (Publix) (1,400; 25-50), "Skippy" (Par). On second run, $2,500.

New Dual Film Spot in Birmingham About $3,700

Birmingham, May 5.

Show business is on the upgrade a little locally, but it won't take an additional set of adding machines to keep track of it. Plenty of rumors around as to whether the Alabama will continue with double features much longer. Looks like vaude will replace. Locks at the Trianon may be used next week, as it's scheduled to go dark May 14.

East Lake Park opened Saturday and failed to hurt the film spots. Takes some nerve to open an amusement park this year in these parts.

Estimates for This Week

Alabama (Publix) (2,800; 25-50)—"Reaching for Moon" (UA) and "City Streets" (Par). Former tickled the fans, but second feature being a gang film won't help matters any; the usual $9,000. Last week Tallulah Bankhead's "Tarnished Lady" (Par) and "The Southerner" (M-G) slightly above average; hometown angle helped for Lula; $9,100.

Ritz (RKO) (1,600; 25-40)—"Born to Love" (Pathe). Femmes in line and occasionally a man; for $4,500. Last week "Connecticut Yankee" (Fox) clicked to nice $6,300.

Strand (Publix) (800; 25-40)—"The Millionaire" (WB). Should get good $3,100. Last week "Kiki" (UA) to new low of $2,100.

Empire (Wise) (1,100; 25-35-50)—"Royal Family" (Par) and "Extravagance" (Tiff). House suddenly went double feature and should do $3,700. Last week "Finger Points" (FN) turned in a good $3,200.

Trianon (RKO) (600; 20-25)—"Behind Office Doors" (Radio). Okay for $600 on three days; "Beyond Victory" (Pathe) around $400. Last week, "Laugh and Get Rich" (Radio) and "The Flood" (Col) took it on the chin; not over $800.

Galax (Publix) (500; 25)—"It's a Wise Child" (M-G). Marion Davies getting billing and likely to draw $900.

Midland May See New Low of $8,000–Gang Film

Kansas City, May 5.

Loew's Midland looks as if it will hit a new low this week with a gang film. They're off the thug stuff around here unless it's very exceptional.

Loew's Midland (4,000; 25-50)—"Quick Millions" (Fox). Well fed up with gang pictures, so this one will hit a new low around $8,000. Last week "Trader Horn" (M-G) $21,100.

Mainstreet (3,200; 25-35-50-60)—"Born to Love" (Pathe) and vaude. Constance Bennett is building here; should do $22,000. Last week "Finger Points" (FN) $19,200.

Newman (1,890; 25-35-50-60)—"Body and Soul" (Fox). Duke Ellington will help for around $18,000. Last week "City Streets (Par) eight days $15,000, not so good.

Royal (840; 25-50)—"Gun Smoke" (Par). "Names" in this one will do close to $4,000. Last week "Doctor's Wives" (Fox) got 4,200.

Chi Meets Bankhead Coolly; "Millionaire" at $21,000, Raves; "Kick In" and Bow $28,000—OK

Chicago, May 5.

Seating capacity rather than attractions will be the factor which varies the amount of coin registered this week. The Chicago will lead by reason of its 4,000 seats to a fair week at $39,000. This, with "Tarnished Lady," which introduced Tullulah Bankhead to the town's picturegoers. Picture started with no special haste and indicates a lazy lope for the entire stay.

Oriental, next in size, will manage $28,000 with Clara Bow's "Kick In." Picture drew good notices. "Iron Man," being sold as a love drama at the State-Lake, then scrambles in the follow-up position.

"Millionaire" is satisfying at the small Roosevelt, and should make it very profitable at $21,000. "Little Caesar" continues into its fourth week at the tiny Orpheum and is prepared to stay five. "Jungle Hazards," having Dr. Davenport as lecturer, had such a three weeks' success at the arty Cinema that it comes into loop Garrick next week for a two-a-day try.

Estimates for This Week

Apollo (1,200; 75-$1-$1.50)—"Dirigible" (Col). First week on road show made good, though this town never did go for the fancy prices. Indicates $7,000 for second and current week; follows a fair start last week at $8,000.

Chicago (Publix-B. & K.) (4,000; 50-75-85)—"Tarnished Lady" (Par). Stage show. House dropping somewhat as film's star unknown; picture not rated strong by reviewers or public; points to fair $39,000. "Shipmates" (M-G) last week v.g. at $44,700.

McVicker's (Public-B. & K.) (2,200; 50-75-85)—"Trader Horn" (M-G). Going nicely at grind for $28,000. "Strangers May Kiss," staying 15 days, finished last eight to fine $29,900.

Oriental (Publix-B. & K.) (3,200; 50-75-85)—"Kick In" (Par). Stage show. House drops only slightly, but appears to be satisfying the home office at probably $28,000. "Ladies Man" (Par) last week made good at $30,700.

Orpheum (Warner) (600; 40-60-75)—"Little Caesar" (WB). Going into fourth week and showing first signs of folding; should hold up to $3,500, excellent for house and run; when the Woods dropped the picture last week, this house jumped surprisingly to $5,900.

Palace (RKO) (2,300; 50-75-85)—"Gun Smoke" (Par). Excellent bill this week and maybe $25,000. Olsen and Johnson on stage last week boosted to fine $27,100 with "Laugh and Get Rich" (Radio).

Roosevelt (Publix-B. & K.) (1,500; 50-75-85)—"Millionaire" (WB). First week indicates good money at $21,000; reviews were Arliss raves; "Svengali" (WB) to replace shortly. Last week "The Prodigal" (M-G) had a bad one-week stay at $13,200.

State-Lake (RKO) (2,700; 50-75-85)—"Iron Man" (U). Opening fairly strong and should clip $26,000 for first week. "Born to Love" (Pathe) finished second week to $16,400.

United Artists (Publix-UA) (1,700; 50-75-85)—"Indiscreet" (UA). Last seven days of a fortnight stay for Swanson; second week oke at $16,000 after opener at $23,800. "Front Page" (UA) appears to have finally cleared the censors and is ready to start.

Woods (Jones) (1,200; 50-75-85)—"Mr. Lemon of Orange" (Fox). Sticking seven more days and will satisfy if getting the expected $5,000. Last week better than hoped for at $9,200. "Leibelind" (Indie) ready to go close of this week.

Cohen's Spec Dog-Kid Short Brings U Order

Hollywood, May 5.

First of a dog-kid shorts series made on spec by Max Cohen for Universal has been released by the studio, and Cohen has an agreement for 11 more.

Cohen is head of U's trick effects department and made the first short during the studio's recent layoff.

"Lane" as Par Release

Hollywood, May 5.

William Vogel, with Eddie Dowling, has organized a separate corporation to make "Honeymoon Lane" as a picture starring Dowling. It's for Paramount release, now officially set.

Dowling and Vogel are also producing a musical for Sonoart, with George W. Weeks only interested in Sonoart.

William J. Craft will direct and production on "Lane" starts May 16. Picture will have three songs.

PROVIDENCE CALM

"Tarnished" Pointed for $9,000 — Albee Up A Little At $8,000

Providence, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 315,000)

With virtually no feature of any big appeal in town this week, there is nothing to hint that main stem theatres will do anything to brag about. "Tarnished Lady," at the Paramount, is doing fairly, but looks like it will slide because it has more appeal for class trade.

Estimates for This Week

Loew's State (3,500; 20-50-75) "Shipmates" (M-G). Great town for Montgomery; biz moving okay and should reach excellent $18,000. "Front Page" (UA) last week, good at $15,600, but figured to do better.

Paramount (2,000; 15-50) "Tarnished Lady" (Par). Heaps of praise for Bankhead, but appeal to only class trade as house also has opera star on stage in short musical act; has chance to get close to $9,000, doubtful of more. "Ladies' Man" (Par) last week $8,200.

Albee (RKO) (2,500; 15-50) "Born to Love" (Pathe). While feature not expected to do anything big should take house out of bad slump; will safely get $8,000. "Iron Man" (U) last week slid badly to $6,000.

Majestic (Fay) (2,200; 15-50) "Viennese Nights" (FN). Not rated highly and may reach $10,000; house has been garnering $13,000 weekly average on twin features for quite some time, but doomed this week. "My Past" (WB) and "Fifty Million Frenchmen" (WB) last week grabbed fine $13,200.

Victory (RKO) (1,600; 15-50) "Lonely Wives" (Pathe). Fair entertainment and will probably reach $5,500. "Subway Express" (Col) last week under average at $4,800.

Fay's (1,600; 15-50) "Quick Millions" (Fox) and vaude. House plugging Spencer Tracy as former Providence stock favorite, but fans have forgotten; close to $7,000, largely because of big stage show. "The Spy," last week; okay at $6,500.

200 ADDITIONAL SHORTS LISTED

Any threat of double bills is not worrying the shorts producers. No fear is reflected in the show lineups for the 1931-'32 season.

While Paramount has shaved its one and two-reel output for the coming year, almost all other companies have increased. These include Metro, RKO Pathe, Radio, and U. Fox remains out of the field.

It is now estimated that there will be at least 200 more talking shorts made for the market the coming year than last.

In merchandising the shorts, the distributors will stress on the advisability of using shorts along with vaude, if necessary, as a substitute for double-features. Meanwhile, the distribs will maintain the same rentals on their features, leaving the double-billing account in the position of having to dig around for a second feature at cut rates if insisting on the dual policy.

To Diversify

For those exhibs who have consistently played double features and continue to do so, the distribs will use the selling point of adding shorts to the two features to diversify. Due to opposition, through too much double-billing, there has been a recent increase in the tendency of adding shorts to shows having two full lengths.

There has also been a marked upward trend in the booking of shorts for deluxe programs not previously finding room for the briefs. It has come about in an effort to give more of a show and make it as diversified as possible. This embraces not only deluxe houses with stage shows but the better grade vaude theatres as well.

That the producer-distribs will not go through with the entire schedule of shorts as planned is denied on many sides. It is insisted that the shorts schedules, as okayed at spring conventions, will be sold as is and delivered.

30c Worth

Beverly Hills, May 5.

For 30 cents last week the Marquis, neighborhood house, offered:

"Many a Slip" (feature).
"Kiss Me Again" (feature).
Two-reel comedy.
One-reel comedy.
Cartoon short.
Universal newsreel.

And was knee-deep in squawks.

Bankhead $23,000 And 'Page' $19,000 In Balto—Biz Is Up

Baltimore, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 850,000)

Current craze for mind reading and clairvoyance is keeping two houses open that would otherwise be dark. The Palace has a double-header, coupling the psycho show with a sex lecture and living models. The Maryland turned on the juice yesterday (Monday) with an East Indian mind-reader and troupe.

Biz is running well ahead of seasonal average. Cool weather and outstanding attractions the reasons. Two big Loew houses, Stanley and Century, have been running high for some weeks. "Tarnished Lady," at the Century, looks like good money and "Front Page" should draw satisfactorily at the Stanley.

Estimates for This Week

Century (Loew)—"Tarnish Lady" (Par) (3,200; 25-60). Local debut of Tallulah Bankhead as screen artist being watched with interest; she played stock here in her pre-London days; title makes it a mat attraction for this house; should cross $23,000. "Shipmates" (M-G) last week was big, touching $25,000.

Stanley (Loew-Stanley-Crandall)—"Front Page" (UA) (3,600; 25-60). Should do well but hardly big, as newspaper plots don't fetch the femme; $19,000 unless it leaps. "Trader Horn" (M-G) last week drew about $24,500, fine.

Rivoli (Wilson Amus. Co.)—"Hell Bound" (Tiff) (2,000; 35-60). Should do a pretty good $7,000. "Subway Express" (Col) last week satisfactory at $7,200.

Keith's (Schanbergers)—"Bachelor Apartments" (Radio) (2,500; 25-50). Maybe a pretty good $11,000. "Behind Office Doors" (Radio) last week just a fair $8,000.

Valencia (Loew-UA) — "Stepping Out" (1,500; 25-35). Looks pretty good for $3,200. "Men Call It Love" last week, $3,600.

Parkway (Loew-UA) — "Dishonored" (Par) (1,000; 25-35). A good week and should beat $5,000. Last week "City Lights" (UA) not up to b. o. expectations, $4,400.

Metropolitan (Warner-Equity) — "It Pays to Advertise" (Par) (1,300; 25-50). About $5,500. "Iron Man" (U) last week got a good $5,100.

New (M. Mechanic)—"Lady Who Dared" (1,400; 25-50). Title should draw, say a good $8,500. "Charlie Chan" (Fox) last week only $7,000.

Louisville Strong for 'Skip,' $7,500; Nat'l Reopens

Louisville, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 500,000)

"Skippy," at the Strand, looks strong enough for a holdover. This should be a particularly bright week with several good pictures showing. The National reopened, its prospects for better pictures strengthened through the Mary Anderson going stock there indefinitely.

Estimates for This Week

Alamo (4th Ave.) (1,100; 15-25-40) "Quick Millions" (Fox). About $4,500 indicated; fair. Last week "Iron Man" (U) just topped $5,000.

Brown (Brown) (1,509; 15-25-40) "Subway Express" (Col). Going well and should do $4,800. Last week "Bachelor Apartment" (Radio) $5,100, good.

National (Brown Enterprises) (2,300; 15-25-30-40-50) "Cohens and Kellys in Africa" (U). Reopening attracting interest and may be good for $6,000.

Rialto (4th Ave.) (2,940; 30-40-50-60) "Ladies' Man" (Par) and vaude. Doing well and should reach around $10,500. Last week, "Three Girls Lost" (Fox), $11,500.

State (Loew) (3,252; 25-35-50-60) "Secret Six" (M-G). Should carry for $11,000. Last week "Trader Horn" (M-G) clicked for nearly $11,700.

Strand (4th Ave.) (1,865; 25-35-50-60) "Skippy" (Par). Running like a thoroughbred for about $7,500. Last week "Fifty Million Frenchmen" (WB) just passed $6,100.

COLUMBUS SLOW

"Wise Child" Light, $15,500—"Born to Love" $11,000

Columbus, May 5.

"Trader Horn" at the Broad has the call this week. Little competition from other houses is helping, too.

The Ohio is getting only light play with Marion Davies and no names on stage unit. Last week went into a major decline. Good weather and race tracks the best explanation.

Estimates for This Week

Palace (RKO), "Born to Love" (Pathe) (3,000; 25-50). Will be glad to close with $11,000. Last week "Iron Man" (U) fell off at close to gross only $11,400.

Ohio (Loew-UA), "It's a Wise Child" (M-G) and unit (3,074; 25-50). Looks no better than fair $15,500. Last week "Doctors' Wives" (Fox), with Ted Lewis on stage, $18,400.

Broad (Loew-UA), "Trader Horn" (M-G) (2,500; 25-50). Class draw and should hit around $15,500. Last week "Strangers May Kiss" (M-G) fell to $14,600.

Grand (Neth), "The Millionaire" (WB) (1,100; 25-50). Not better than average for house, $4,100. Last week "Skippy" (Par) also dropped in last days to $5,700.

Majestic (RKO), "Only Saps Work" (Par) and "The Sin Ship" (Radio). Looks good for $4,200, first film getting off to fine start. Last week "Virtuous Husband" (U) and "Comrades of 1918" (German) slumped to $3,450.

MONTREAL STRUGGLING, $13,000 FOR CAP'S DUO

Montreal, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 600,000)

Good pictures this week ought to see some nice grosses, but the pressure of outside amusements is heavy. Big salary cuts starting all over town will probably slash attendances.

The Palace with "Strangers May Kiss" and its local girl lead should ace the street. May go around $15,000. The Capitol has been climbing of late and has a Powell and Oakie double, both well liked here, that will hold up. The nabes held up better than hoped last week but are fast approaching summer decline.

Estimates for This Week

His Majesty's (CT) (1,600; 50-$2) "Cherries Are Ripe" (legit). Banky and LaRocque may bolster, but $9,000 is the outside. Last week "Strictly Dishonorable" (legit) did better than expected at $13,500.

Palace (FP) (2,700; 75)—"Strangers May Kiss" (M-G). Norma Shearer, home-town girl and will get best gross in town, maybe $15,000. "Dance, Fools, Dance" (M-G) faded in mid-week and finished to $13,000 last week.

Capitol (FP) (2,700; 60)—"Man of the World" (Par) and "June Moon" (Par). Popular leads and improving grosses here means up to $13,000, good, this week. Last week "Connecticut Yankee" (Fox) and "Don't Bet On Women" (Fox) put house out in front with $14,500.

Loew's (FP) (3,200; 35-60)—"Mr. Lemon of Orange" (Fox) and vaude. No standout but $11,500 will be fair. Last week "Lady's Morals" (M-G), did usual at around $12,000.

Princess (CT) (1,600; 35-60)—"Lonely Wives" (Pathe). Cannot hope for more than $10,000. Last week "Dirigible" (Col). At $9,000 was below hopes.

Imperial (FP) (1,900; 25-40)—"Misbehaving Ladies" (FN) and "Conquering Horde" (Par). Looks like a good deuce and should do $5,000. Last week "Soldiers Plaything" (WB) and "Swanee River" (Ed) around $4,200.

Cinema de Paris (Ind) (600; 25-50)—"Echec au Roi" (French). Maybe $1,500 this week. Second week of "David Golder" (French), last week, was down to about same figure.

'Iron Man' Leads Newark's Quiet Parade at $18,000

Newark, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 850,000)

"Iron Man," at the Branford, looks as if it would lead this week with nothing else very strong. The Mosque, on its second run and double feature policy, doesn't seem to be going anywhere yet, while cut rates at the Terminal are bringing steadily better business.

Estimates for This Week

Branford (WB) (2,350; 25-40-50-65), "Iron Man" (U) and stage show. Opening strong and should reach $18,000. Last week "Millionaire" (WB) disappointed a bit, but fine at nearly $20,000.

Little (Newark M. P. Guild) (299; 30-60), "China Express" (Russian). Pretty sure of $1,500. Last week "Bockbierfest" (Central) failed to hold up, $1,000.

Loew's State (2,800; 30-50), "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath" (M-G) and vaude. Keaton in bad grace locally and only about $13,000. Last week "Skippy" (Par) cleaned up, over $23,000.

Mosque (WB) (3,281; 25-40), "The Spy" (Fox) and "Capt. Applejack" (WB). First runs this time, but no publicity prevents selling them, $5,500. Last week "Cimarron" (Radio) only $3,300.

Terminal (Fox) (1,900; 25-50), "Three Rogues" (Fox). Maybe $5,600. Last week "Connecticut Yankee" (Fox) good enough for second week at about $6,000.

FRISCO DIVES; 'DAYBREAK' AT FOX, $35,000

San Francisco, May 5.

Business generally below normal this week. The Fox, after two excellent terms, is falling off materially and other houses also complaining.

Estimates for This Week

Fox (5,000; 50-65-75-$1) "Daybreak"—(M-G). Opened light and fails to show prospects of building; looks like around $35,000, hardly fair. Last week "Shipmates" (M-G) finished with $47,000.

Warfield (Fox) (2,672; 50-65-90)—"Quick Millions" (Fox). Only fair and probably $19,000. Last week "Tailor Made Man" (M-G) finished to $22,000.

Paramount (Fox) "Finger Points"—(FN). Disappointing and indicates around $18,000, fair for house. "City Streets" (Par) $17,000.

California (Fox) (2,200; 35-50-65-$1)—"Woman Hungry" (WB). Off to poor start; will be around $9,000. Last week "Ladies' Man" (Par) approached $10,000.

Orpheum (RKO) (2,270; 35-50-65)—"Born to Love" (Pathe). Hitting average and probably $10,000, okay at reduced prices. Last week "Last Parade" (Col) did $9,000, slightly below normal.

Golden Gate (RKO) (2,485; 30-40-50-65) — "Beyond Victory" (Pathe). Probably $15,500, aided by clicking vaude. Last week "Bad Sister" (U) got $15,000.

Warners (WB) (1,365; 30-50-60)—"The Millionaire" (WB). On second week holding up and will close to $12,000. Last week same film $14,000, very good here.

Boston Ordinary This Wk. But 'Lady' May Reach $40,000

Boston, May 5.

(Drawing Population, 850,000)

Looks like an ordinary week for the picture houses. Business is likely to be affected by splendid weather.

The Majestic swings again into the picture list with "Dirigible" and the Metropolitan is making a bid for business with "Tarnished Lady." Keith house looks for a good response to "Born to Love." The circus is eating into film attendance somewhat, especially at matinees.

Estimates for This Week

Met. (Publix) (4,380; 50-75)—"Tarnished Lady" (Par). Will be lucky to get $40,000 class. Last week "The Millionaire" (WB) brought many strangers also a fine gross of $44,900.

Loew's State (4,000; 30-40-50)—"Secret Six" (M-G). All right for about $26,000. Business only fair last week with "Front Page" (UA) at $19,000.

Keith's (4,000; 35-50-60)—"Born to Love" (Pathe). Should do close to $24,000, as Constance Bennett has personal following here. Did $15,100 with "Cracked Nuts" (Radio) last week.

Keith-Boston (RKO) (3,000; 50-60)—"Laugh and Get Rich" (Radio). Will not run much above $15,000; supporting vaude not so hot. Did $16,000 last week with "Road to Paradise."

Fenway (1,360; 30-50). Should clean with "The Millionaire" (WB). Looks better than $10,000; picture does not suffer from second run at house in apartment house belt. Just about made the grade with $6,500 last week for "Ladies' Man" (Par).

Uptown (1,700; 30-60). Will be about $8,000 on "Hell Bound." Same amount last week with "Ladies' Man" (Par).

Scollay (2,562; 35-50-60)—Fortunate if seeing $15,000 this week with "City Streets" (Par). Did $13,000 last week with "Finger Points" (FN).

Sheehan Back Next Week

Another week in New York will be about all for Winnie Sheehan on his current trip.

The Fox producer came to New York early last week to attend the Fox convention.

'ENTENTE CORDIALE' CLOSED

GERMAN UNION THREATENS FRANCE

Geneva, May 5.

In a meeting here this week, Switzerland's Association of picture house owners decided to join with the German Managers Union.

Feeling locally is that the move will go toward strengthening European talker field.

A week ago in Munich representatives of all Austrian exhibs joined the German exhibitors group. With the present move by Switzerland, the Balkan states are almost sure to line up with the group making an almost impregnable middle- European chain.

It mears that France, who has already been doing considerale worrying about Germany's actions in Europe's war for talker control, is given a serious setback and will have to line up allies in Italy, Sweden and other spots outsid of the middle European clique, to guard its own talker market.

3 Versions of 'Angel' at One Price in one Paris Theatre Concurrently

Paris, May 5.

Three different versions of "The Blue Angel" (Ufa) are now at the Ursulines concurrently. One is the original German, another the English, and the third a synched silent.

Hours of the three different showings are advertised. One price for all.

DUTCH PASS UP FRENCH FILM "CAIN"; NO LIKE

The Hague, April 24.

At the City theatre the premiere for Holland was given of the French film "Cain," produced by Leon Poirier. A small audience attended.

Majority of natives do not understand these French talkers nor care for French film production.

"Cain" was produced here as a talker in the German version, so it could not fail by reason stated above, still it was a wash-out.

Ufa and New York

Berlin, April 25.

When the balance sheets of the Ufa appeared, it was intimated again dividends would be paid for 1930-31. Although the returns from the theatres were not quite satisfactory, distribution exceeded the prediction by several millions.

At the present time the Ufa has about 1½ million dollars in cash.

New York reports according to which the Ufa is contemplating securing a Broadway theatre is not quite correct. Ufa has negotiated with several Broadway theatres regarding the showing of Ufa pictures. At the same time Tobis intends to open a distributing office in New York, through Milton Diamond.

Mexican Film Storage Fire Paralyzes Shows

Mexico City, May 5.

About 3,000 reels of film, comprising the week's program for picture theatres in Chihuahua City and four nearby towns, were destroyed by fire, forcing curtailment of shows.

A short circuit in the warehouse of Calderon and Salas Porras, distributors, caused the blaze.

Dispatches estimate damages at $50,000.

GAINSBOROUGH 1ST

G-B Concentrating Production in London—Balcon Over All

London, May 5.

Understood that William Gell, general manager of Gaumont British and director of Gainsborough Pictures, Gaumont producing subsid., will leave board of Gainsborough on his return from America, where he is now visiting. Move will be for Gell to concentrate on the renting angle.

Gaumont intends to make Gainsborough its central production unit in a combine with all its other studios. Michael Balcon, Gainsborough chief, will act as head of the new lineup.

Gaumont is likely to reduce the executive personnel of its own studios, to effect this move.

STOLL'S HIGH FIGURE TO SELL CIRCUIT

London, May 5.

Negotiations are on by a mysterious individual for the entire Stoll circuit of theatres, with special emphasis on the Alhambra here and the Empires in Woodgreen and Shepherds Bush.

Supposition is that the bidder is negotiating for RKO, but no way of confirming this.

Only hitch to the deal is that Sir Oswald does not seem to be at all eager to sell and has placed a fabulous figure on his houses.

Pittaluga's Continental Staff Is Reorganizing

Paris, May 5.

Pittaluga is entirely rearranging its Continental distributing staff. Pete Mander, formerly Pittaluga's assistant, is currently in Paris, where he expects Tom Delehanty.

At the moment Delehanty is in London arranging for continuation of the Italian firm's British agency.

Leisenmeir, Berlin agent of the firm, has left to join a German organization, which leaves still another hole.

Fox's 10 with Tobis

Berlin, May 5.

As a result of Clayton Sheehan's visit to Berlin recently Fox will produce 10 pictures in association with Tobis here.

Beginning of production on the first film is set for June 15.

Connolly in Paris

Paris, May 5.

Jack Connolly of Pathe News is here looking over the situation. London and Berlin will get him.

In about a week Connolly expects to be back in Paris and will then sail for New York.

GERMAN FILM'S DATES

"Foersterchristl" ("Forrester's Daughter"), German film now showing at the Belmont, New York, has been booked into four deluxe houses in the middle and far west for runs.

Houses booked for the film are Biltmore, Los Angeles, May 16; Erlanger, Cincinnati, May 16; Pap's, Milwaukee, May 24, and Punch and Judy, Chicago, current.

A Tucker in Dublin

London, April 24.

Sophie Tucker in Dublin, May 4.

Debating whether to sing "Yidisher Mommer."

"Carnival" Starts

London, May 5.

Joseph Shildkraut reported on the B. & D. lot yesterday (4) and started immediately on "Carnival."

FRENCH-GERMAN CO-PRODUCTION

Charles Delac and Dr. Plugge Reach Agreement—New Kontingent Understanding, 35 for France If Necessary

U. S. VERSIONS OUT

Berlin, May 5.

Charles Delac, head of an organization representing the French film industry, is here and has closed the so-called "entente cordiale" with Dr. Plugge, heading the German film industry group.

Agreement calls for co-production between the two countries and a clearer understanding on the Kontinent situation.

For the time being 12 to 15 Kontingents will be placed at the disposal of the French, which Delac can distribute in Paris at his own discretion. If these are not sufficient, 35 Kontingents from the special fund of the German government can be resorted to.

Surprising feature is that German versions of American talkers made in Paris are excluded in this deal, despite that it includes ordinary German talkers made in France.

The Paris Angle

Paris, May 5.

Germany does not want to benefit such French studios as Paramount's Joinville plant, alleging that it is really American camouflage despite locally organized under French laws.

Delac, himself a film producer desiring German sale of his product, is inclined to agree with the German view, but Maurice Petsch, French Minister of Fine Arts, is against it. Better informed as to the real French interests, Petsch knows that such a move might mean Americans leaving Paris for production in Berlin.

Conference of Minister Petsch with the Paris Hays representative brought a series of cables to and from New York, with the New York Hays office answering that the American industry agrees in his opposition of the German move. Intention of this move, New York feels, is to compel the French government to disown French corporations organized with American help or money. America has had a non-aggressive viewpoint as far as Germany is concerned. That is the essence of the answer from New York to the Hays representative in Paris, as given to the French government.

German Cost Higher

Minister Petsch delayed negotiations in the conviction the Germans' aim was to bluff Americans into becoming disgusted and desist from production in France. Recording royalties in France are below $5,000 per feature. If moving into Germany this figure would go to four times that for an alien producer.

Minister Petsch felt that the French as well as the world industry would eventually benefit greatly if, despite the personal interest of a few French producers with German tieups, France did refuse to play the German scapegoat by forming an anti-American block in Germany, since the same proposal has already been more or less turned down by England and Italy.

Police Guard Tenor

Dresden, April 25.

At the Dresden Residenz theatre where previously the public had demonstrated against the operetta tenor, Thunis, because he had at one time been expelled from Dresden, due to his anti-German feelings, on Saturday evening the audience again demonstrated violently against him.

Police were called and escorted Thunis to his home after the show.

Favored Film Men Not So Happy Over English Sunday Opening

London, April 24.

While the wise ones were running around saying Sunday opening in England hadn't a chance, Parliament, before a crowded house and to a record Monday evening attendance of Members, debated the Sunday Performances (Regulation) Bill, which legalizes the Sunday opening of cinemas subject to local option. It voted in favor of the Bill by 258 to 210.

While the Parliamentarians were arguing the toss, Zabbitarians and greybeards generally were parading adjacent streets praying the Bill be rejected, while the announcement of the victory brought last house cinema audiences to their feet.

Bill now goes into committee stage, where it is drafted and revised, with likelihood parliamentarians will receive deputations from various people interested in it. After the final drafting it comes up again for debate, when a final vote is cast on it.

At present the stage industry is as a whole opposed to it, reckoning it favors the screen and leaves out theatres and music halls, arguing people encouraged legally to go to pictures on Sunday will do so the rest of the week.

Film Peeves

Film trade itself is sore about the local option clause which puts them in the hands of the local greybeards, sore at the fact their books will be officially audited to see they give all their Sunday profit for charity, and sore that they are likely to be much more restricted under the Bill than they were when the trouble first started.

All the same, film trade men spent the day in the House, lobbying for the result, and half Wardour Street was to be found around Westminster. Film trade theory is apparently that half a cake is better than no bread, and that there's a sporting chance of getting things improved in the committee stage.

Parliamentary correspondents to the leading papers are unanimous in agreeing the Bill was passed solely through the hysterical campaign started by the greybeards, whose efforts to rule the country from the fireside made the Members sore.

Helbling Gets $25 and Lead for Title Idea

Hollywood, May 5.

Radio has raised the ante on titles selected for versions. Jeanne Helbling suggested "Nuit d'Espagne" ("Spanish Night") for the French version of "The Next Corner." She got $25 cash and the lead in the picture.

Henri de la Falaise started production last week. Geymond Vital has the male lead.

U PAYS $20,000 FOR PIRANDELLO'S 'BEFORE'

Paris, May 5.

Universal has bought Pirandello's "As Before but Better," paying $20,000 for the talker rights.

The Italian playwright is also negotiating for sale of another of his properties, which involves $80,000 plus a trip to Hollywood.

Paris Newsreel House

Paris, April 24.

First newsreel theatre in France will open next month, opposite the Palace Music Hall. It will be equipped by Western Electric. All newsreels, except Fox, will be played.

Fox will provide entirely the program for the next house of the chain which is promoted by Reginal Ford.

Another French newsreel is likely to spring up, promoted by important provincial dailies.

Trade Off in London

London, May 5.

Picture houses way off last week.

Majority playing foreign talkers, mostly failing to click.

"Front Page" got $3,300 in its first day at the Tivoli Monday (4), a very pleasant figure. Created considerable comment and got a warm reception.

Looks like about eight good weeks for this film. If the British catch on to the psychology back of it, which is doubtful, it will lengthen to eight months.

Gallo with Pathe Natan

Paris, April 24.

Charles Gallo, part owner of Comoedia local show daily and a director of Star Film, has resigned from the latter to join Pathe Natan.

Though his official title there is assistant to the management, he will be valuable as contact man with the government, since he holds an official position in the picture control commission and with the press.

ABC After Theatres

London, May 5.

Associated British Cinemas is arranging underwriting for a $7,500,000 debenture issue.

Object is to buy new theatres.

'Woodley Okayed in S.A.

Capetown, May 5.

"Young Woodley," play by John Van Druten, has been passed by Cape censors and will be shown here soon.

Play was banned in Australia.

$28,000 WKLY. AVERAGE IN PAR'S PARIS DELUXE

Paris, April 24.

For the year ending April, Paris Paramount theatre grossed about $1,400,000, Olympia about $1,000,000.

Despite its comparatively small size and remote location, Les Miracles, picture house built by Leon Bailby in the offices of his newspaper, "L'Intransigeant," is now fifth in importance in the Paris picture house grosses, due to smart publicity and selection of films.

Couple of Busts

London, April 24.

Horace Shepherd tried to run a film cartoon concern and took the bankruptcy route with $10,280 debts and assets of $7,060.

International Cine Corp. bust for $59,000 and assets $4,000. Company was formed in August, 1912. It later became part of Filmophone Company when this was floated on public in the stock market boom.

Fox's Spanish

Hollywood, May 5.

A Spanish film is being readied at Fox with a Spanish director, star and writer. To be titled "Mama."

Catalina Barcena, new import prominent in Spain, will star, and Benito Perojo is to direct. Yarn was written from a Spanish play by Martinez Sierra.

Amusements Picked Up Somewhat, With Rest of Market Following Severe Break Early Last Week

Amusement shares disclosed but minor changes at the close Monday (4) of the Stock Exchange. They had mainly followed the trend of the entire list that received a severe wallop Thursday, following the report of U. S. Steel.

In a slow market yesterday (Tuesday) the quotations were mostly fractional under Monday. In the show stocks a difference of one-half of a point seemed to predominate.

When Steel dipped 9 points Thursday and the others along, amusements kept step, but not to such a marked extent, since there is no strictly amusement stock at present above 50. Nearest is Loew's. Possible exception if figured show business is Eastman's. Loew's closed Monday at 45¾, a couple of points gain on the week. Eastman slipped under 149 on Thursday, but Monday had picked up to 156½.

Friday (1) about a 50% recovery was made over the Thursday's losses. RKO, which had gone under 16, its low of the year, struck 18 Friday and was 17½ when the gong sounded Monday.

Paramount and Warners ended Monday about the same as the week before, with but a fractional difference in either. These two stocks have been held so consistently at their lows for both that the stock influence is among the reports of a possible all-around deal between WB and Par, the same as reported about a year ago and then abandoned.

No other reason is advanced for either stock remaining down. There is nothing official to date over Paramount's future dividends with Par apt to follow the sterling business example of U. S. Steel in declaring the full division, despite earnings, from its ample surplus. Comparatively, Par has an equally ample surplus.

Buying Own Bonds

Meanwhile, stories say Paramount and Warners are buying up their own bonds at present quotations. Warners is said to have made liberal purchases of WB bonds at $45 or under. It is also reported WB is willing to borrow for that purpose. The WB bond issue is of $40,000,000, not maturing before 1940. At present quotations or at $45 the entire issue amounts to $18,000,000. Paramount's bonds are said to have immediately jumped up five or six points after Par started to buy them at under $90 and as low as $86.

Pathe bonds got down to $80 Monday, slight drop on the week. Shubert $13.50 the same day, after having gone to $15 after hitting $12.50 last week.

Columbia's Slide

Columbia Pictures on the Curb took a slide down to 15, with 11 bid. Reports of Columbia dickering for a sale with RKO is denied; also the same with Universal and RKO.

Fox gained a bit, ending at 19⅛ Monday. The Fox situation seems still a bit muddled with its annual meeting postponed until May 15. Numerous rumors come out steadily on Fox. Harley L. Clarke, its president, is said to have extensive personal resources beyond his New York banking interests, sufficient to handle any situation. Fox Theatres got as low as 3⅛, with many looking upon the stock at that figure or thereabouts as a speculative buy on the chance of a possible merger in any direction in the future.

Others of the amusement string ended Monday in a blend with the rest.

Pooling

The theatre condition between the large circuits is claimed to be in line for a betterment shortly, with the various pooling deals under way between them for houses in overseated towns. Trade-termed pooling, the theatre deals are more of an outright rental proposition to conform with the Government's wishes in that matter.

A report that Paramount had secured, or would secure, the stock control of Loew's through purchase of its stock held by the Film Securities Company, lately formed, has been denied in all directions.

Yesterday's Priecs

STOCK EXCHANGE

Sales.		High.	Low.	Last.	Net chg.
100	Consol. F..	6½	6½	6½	
500	Con. F. pf.	14⅞	14⅞	14⅞	
400	East. K...	157	154	154¼	−2¾
800	Fox, Cl. A	20	18¾	19	−1
1,000	Gen. Elec.	44½	43	43⅛	−1⅜
1,000	Gen. T. Eq	4⅞	4⅝	4½	−⅝
200	Loew	46¼	44¾	44¾	−1½
100	M-G-M pf.	25½	25½	25½	
6,600	Par	31¼	29¾	29¾	−½
100	Pathe Ex..	1⅝	1½	1⅝	+⅛
100	Pathe, Cl.A	4½	4½	4½	
35,900	Radio Corp	17¾	16¾	16⅞	−⅞
5,000	RKO	18¼	17⅜	17½	−1
100	Shubert ..	5	5	5	
6,700	Warner ..	8½	8	8	−½
25,400	West'house	63	59¾	60½	−1½
	CURB				
100	Col Pic....	14	14	14	
1,100	De Forest.	5	4¾	5	+¼
200	Fox Thrs..	3⅜	3⅛	3⅛	−¼
2,000	Gen. T....	8⅜	8⅛	8⅛	−¼
200	Techni	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	
800	Trans Lux	8	7⅞	8	−⅛
	BONDS				
$3,000	Gen. The..	47½	46⅞	47	−½
10,000	Loew 6s..	94⅞	94¾	94¾	−⅛
2,000	Pathe 7s..	80	80	80	
10,000	Par-P 5½s	89	88	89	−1
3,000	Shub 6s...	14½	14	14	−½
18,000	War B 6s.	45⅞	45	45	−⅞

ISSUES IN OTHER MARKETS

All Quoted for Monday

Over the Counter, N. Y.

	Bid.	Asked.
Roxy, pf.....	9	11

RCA'S 1st Quarter

Radio Corp. of America and subsids for the quarter ended March 31, 1931, earned a net of $1,566,519, after taxes, etc. This is equivalent to 2 cents a share on 13,160,750 no-par shares of common, after dividends on the Class A and B preferred dividends. Surplus as of March 31, 1931, is $30,274,186. Surplus reported Dec. 31, 1930, was $30,010,538.

Consolidated income for the quarter ended March 31 shows a total of $24,843,683. Costs and expenses, $20,821,011; interest, $353,874; depreciation, $1,875,968.

Incorporations

DELAWARE

Warner Bros. Pictures of Chile, Inc., $10,000. H. E. Latter, J. T. Van Pelt, Wilmington; E. D. Moore, Dover, Del.

Paramount Films of Philippines, Inc., $5,000.

Palace of Wonders, side shows, circuses, etc.

Tower Town Topics, Inc., publishing. $30,000. C. S. Peabbles, L. E. Gray, H. H. Snow, Wilmington.

International Voice Recording Corp., phonographs, radios. $250,000. Robert A. Van Voorhos, Belleville, N. J.; R. H. Toothe, Brooklyn; A. M. Docken, Hoboken.

National Visibola Distribution Corp., picture machines. 100 shares, no par.

Hudson Theatres Corp., 1,000 shares, no par. C. S. Peabbles, L. E. Gray, H. H. Shaw.

Programs Publishing Co., $10,000.

Associated Broadcasters of America. No capital. C. S. Peabbles, L. E. Gray, H. H. Snow.

California

Players Guild of Long Beach. No capital stock. Phil M. Swaffield, Mrs. G. G. Verbryck, Mrs. Warrington E. Kellam, Jane T. H. Burns, Mrs. Walter Case.

Al Boasberg Service. Capital stock 100 shares, $30 subscribed. Al Boasberg, Charles K. Feldman, Grace Doblah.

California Outdoor Life Exposition Corporation. No capital stock. Roy F. H. Shaver, H. A. Perk, Charles P. Teevin, Philip D. Carey.

Certified copy of J. Charles Davis Productions, Reno, Nev.

MASSACHUSETTS

Ideal Amusement Co., Boston. Capital, 1,000 shares common no par. A. C. Kilpatrick, Quincy; Benjamin J. Rosenthan and Anne R. Morrison, both of Boston.

De. Dutch Amusement, Inc., Saugus. Capital, 5000 shares common no par. Raymond J. Cook, Needham; Phyllis C. McLean and Mary A. Tobin, both of Boston.

Judgments

Irwin Abrams; H. von Tilzer; $216.

Pathe Exch., Inc.; M. Bray et al; costs, $149.

B. R. Sherwood; N. Y. Eve. Journal, Inc.; $1,204.

Gus Van; Rothmere Mort. Corp.; $9,020.

Wirth & Hamid, Inc.; A. N. Reed; $5,214.

David Verschleiser; Theatre Estates, Inc.; $2,535.

Recording Laboratories of Am., Inc.; P. M. Plant, $56,340.

Halperin West for UA

United Artists' home office contact at the Coast studio has been filled, Morris Halperin leaving in a couple of weeks. He will work under direct orders from New York.

NICK LUCAS

Denver Theatre, Denver, May 7

New York "Graphic" said: "Nick Lucas crooned to hitdom with half dozen numbers, accompanying himself on guitar. Lucas sings without effort, and the result is so pleasant one wishes there could be more crooners like him."

Direction, Leo Fitzgerald, 226 W. 47th street, New York.

SAVE A MILLION IN MAY—KATZ

"We must save a million dollars in operating during May," said Sam Katz to the divisional directors of Publix last week.

The economy must be placed into effect throughout the several divisions of Publix theatres, he added.

No argument as to how the saving could be effected, following other Publix economy drives. Katz told the men it must be done and that's where the conference ended.

"SPOT" COLD FOR D. W.

Plan of D. W. Griffith to produce the Edgar Wallace play, "On the Spot," as his single for United Artists during '31-'32 is off.

In its place Griffith will do a melodrama, as yet unpicked.

Lucille Brown at U

Hollywood, May 5.

Lucille Brown, just through with Fox after being idle an entire year, goes with Universal.

Option term starts with the lead opposite Kenneth Harlan in "Danger Island," serial.

Chi Fade Out Orders Must Be Okayed, No More Passing of Buck to Exhibs

Chicago, May 5.

One of the most important censorship decisions affecting the entire motion picture field was handed down by the corporation counsel's office on the direct request of the censor board and the chief of police. It concerns the placing of responsibility of elimating censored talker scenes and dialog.

In this argument the distributor claimed it was merely his duty to inform the exhibitor that certain portions had been censored out and then leave it to the individual theatre operator to cut or fade out the censored dialog.

According to the new official opinion, the censor board has the right to insist that the exchange show the board the completely censored print before a final permit is issued. Problem was brought to attention by a letter sent to the commissioner of police by the censor board.

Effect of this opinion will mean that distributors will no longer be able to just promise that dialog will be cut. They will be held responsible if an operator fails to paint out the penciled words. And if that system doesn't work, the censor board will have two showings for each flicker; one to recommend certain eliminations and the second to check up on whether the cuts have been made according to instructions.

Film exchanges are now looking for a legal loop-hole to crawl through in order to avoid the tremendous clipping and additional labor entailed. Film row is now facing its toughest censor problem in the history of the board. And this follows the general belief on the row that the new mayor, Anton Cermak, would be more favorable to the pictures business than William Hale Thompson.

C-F-L Cut Again

Consolidated Film Laboratories has made a second reduction in price, cutting to .0185c a foot for double sound and picture printing and to .0160c for silent work.

Previous cut was from 2¼c a foot to 2c.

NEW 10 PUSHES PUBLIX CLOSE TO 1,600 TOTAL

The 10 theatres now under construction by Publix, several of which will open by the end of June, gives this circuit a house total very near the 1,6000 mark.

Paramounts in Ashland, Ky., and Kankakee, Ill., will debut by May 15. Houses in Steubenville, O., and Aurora, Ill., are to be ready between June 1 and 15.

In Oakland, Cal., and at 63rd and Wallace, Chicago, steel work is under way, while in Freemont, Ill., the foundation has been started. Last house scheduled is for Brookline, Mass. Theatres in Newcastle and Leeds, England, will be respectively completed in September and November.

DELABAR-LOLLIER WEST

H. G. Delabar, treasurer of Fox West Coast, will meet W. H. Lollier, FWC tax specialist, in Kansas City and return with the latter to the Coast Saturday (9).

Lollier, for the past four months, has been stationed in Kansas City making a survey of the Midland, Midwest and St. Louis divisions. Delabar recently was in New York on a confab with Fox home office execs.

Watson's RKO-Pathe Shorts

Hollywood, May 5.

William Watson, Christie producer, goes to RKO-Pathe for shorts.

Series will feature Daphne Pollard.

Clawson Back With Metro

Hollywood, May 5.

Elliott Clawson, who wrote all the Lon Chaney adaptations, is back with Metro.

He has a short-term writing contract.

W. E.'s Partnership Plan for Indies Is Meeting With Chills

The move by Western Electric to reopen 5,000 dark theatres by supplying equipment and guaranteeing pictures, in co-operation with some of its producer licenses, is apparently not having much success, according to reports.

Indie exhibs claim that the terms described as a 50-50 understanding on the week's gross, are excessive.

W. E. refuses to disclose whether any exhibitor has signed such an agreement, although it admits theatre men have been solicited.

Fight Films Make July 4 The 6th for Maine Exhibs

Exhibitors on the Maine side of the Maine-New Brunswick international boundary are going to celebrate Independence Day on July 6 instead of two days earlier.

Reason is that for the past 26 years Maine exhibitors have been forced to watch their New Brunswick brethern gathering in the cream by presenting fight films. Maine devotees have motored as far as 150 miles just to watch the screen reproduction of an important fight.

This situation will end, however, July 5, as after that date the exhibition of fight films in Maine will be permitted by law. Repeal of the anti-fight film law was caused by a desire to debunk the statutes of the Pine Tree State on the part of Clinton T. Goudy, a member of the Maine legislature from South Portland.

For two years the New Brunswick towns have been offering the opportunity to buy liquor plus the fight pictures. Beginning July 6 one of the lures is out.

Col. Sales Realignment

Hollywood, May 5.

Complete realignment of Columbia's sales staff starts with Lou Metzger as general sales manager, succeeding Joe Goldberg. Latter becomes western sales chief.

L. E. Tillman, former western head, changes to San Francisco div. mgr. in place of J. B. Reilly, resigned.

Bebe's Plea for Stars

(Continued from page 1)

soon as they think he is failing," Miss Daniels said.

"An experienced picture performer is never through as the producers see it nor are they marvels who spring up over night. It is just luck at the moment, a good or bad role, good or bad material. But the picture people will never take the time nor the thought to find out anything or to try for anything. They just want something to come along already made and hit them in the eye. And this is the cruelest and most unfair attitude in the world."

"Established film stars may have used poor judgment in material, let us say, but with good stuff and the right stuff, they would be back right where they were at first.

Went Through It

"I know because I had the same experience. I was 'out,' and how," mentioned Miss Daniels. "No one can understand how the picture people act when you are that way. They feel sorry for you, look at you and shake their heads and simply won't give you a chance to show them anything. I couldn't even get a chance to try a talking picture. Certainly not—not even a chance, because, according to their ideas, I was 'through.'

"Yet when I couldn't get a chance I was the same person as in 'Rio Rita' and the sought-after prize of the moment.

"It is simply foolish and something ought to be done about it," is Miss Daniels' belief. "No one can understand how the film people's attitude kills a performer, destroys self-confidence and ruins them so that they can't do a thing. They feel as though they are simply rotten and they become so. It happened to me for awhile and I never suffered so in my life."

Originals

In the rush of production no time can be taken for anybody, or anything, either, Miss Daniels feels. She doesn't care about the role in a picture but a good story is necessary. And hard to get.

Only a tried and true play adapted for pictures shows any indication of what the picture will turn out to be. Original stories are always difficult because the picture people will not take time to rehearse or try to figure out before hand how the story will shape up. No time can be allotted for this at all.

The picture must start immediately and the actors come on the lot not knowing what it is all about, not feeling their characters at all. No one knows what it is all about. Good results from originals might be obtained if time and care could be spent upon them.

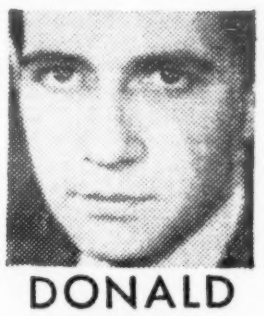
Miss Daniels believes that sometimes talkers can show too much; that they can show little intimate deails a play must openly suggest. This often destroys all subletly and artistic value. Pictures overdo what they can do, she thinks.

Bebe hopes to be able to drop all the heavy sex stuff that is the craze of the moment and do light comedy in good stories. Comedy is a problem now, because one can't turn somersaults in the midst of a heartbroken woman story, Miss Daniels states, but she would like to get away from the heartbroken women who are being overdone at the moment.

the PUBLIC ENEMY

JAMES CAGNEY

JEAN HARLOW



DONALD COOK

These Big Houses
Will Play It
DAY and DATE
with BROADWAY

Strand.....Albany, N. Y.
Fairfax.....Miami, Fla.
Capitol.....Springfield, Mass.
Palace.....Lawrence, Mass.
Priscilla.....Lewiston, Me.
Virginian.Charlestown, W. Va.
Lake.....Cleveland, Ohio
Pantheon.....Toledo, Ohio
Strand.....Akron, Ohio
Royal.....Little Rock, Ark.
Branford.....Newark, N. J.
Stanley....Jersey City, N. J.
Fabian.....Paterson, N. J.
Strand.....New Orleans, La.
Stacy.....Trenton, N. J.
Stanley.....Pittsburgh, Pa.
Music Box.....Seattle, Wash.
Blue Mouse..Tacoma, Wash.

And It's Dated for Every Key City in the Country

21
Consecutive Days of
Pack-'em-in Business

—and it's still going strong at the New York Strand!

Continuing the record performance of

SET FOR 4th BIG WEEK at N. Y. STRAND

WARNER BROS.

Editorial Praise for SVENGALI

Marian Marsh

"A joy" (*News*) "Beautiful and sympathetic" (*Herald-Trib.*) "An actress of promise" (*American*) "Remarkable talents" (*Post*) . . . . .

John Barrymore

as *"Svengali"* "Surpasses anything he has done for the screen" (*Times*) "Goes the limit in presenting the strange, dirty old artist" (*Graphic*) "His outstanding achievement on the screen" (*World-Telegram*)

with

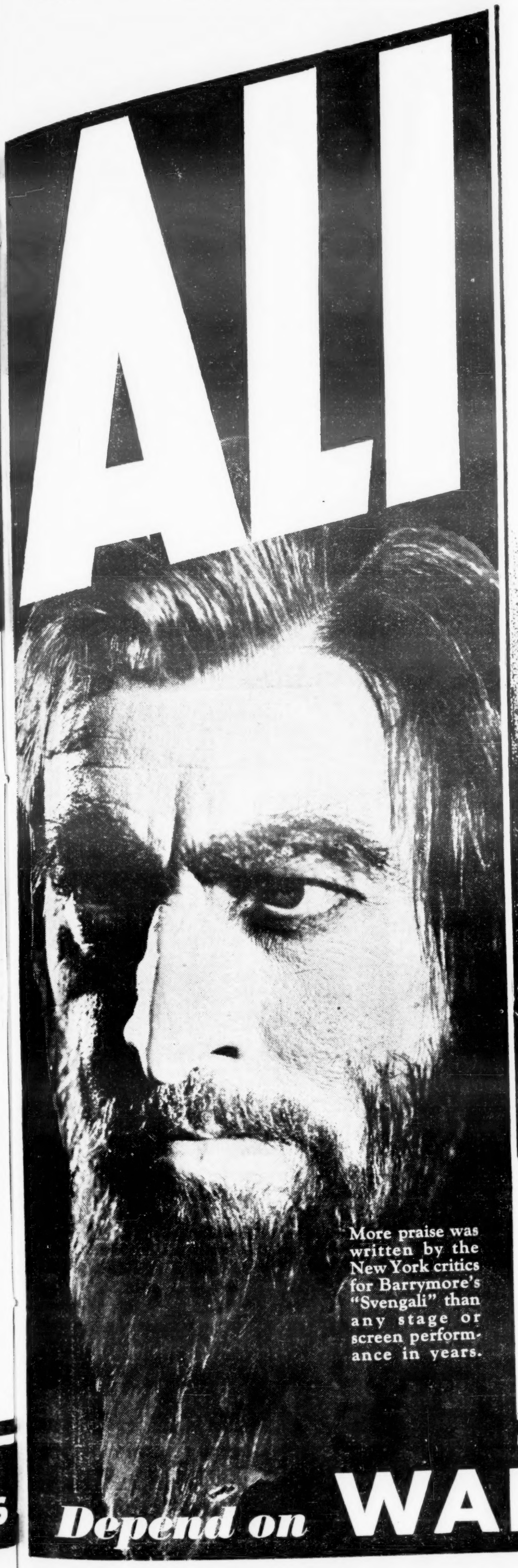
Marian Marsh

The Find Of The Year as "Trilby."
Carmel Myers, Donald Crisp, Bramwell Fletcher, Paul Porcasi, Louis Alberni.

Directed by Archie Mayo

Another Reason Why

Thousands of Exhibitors



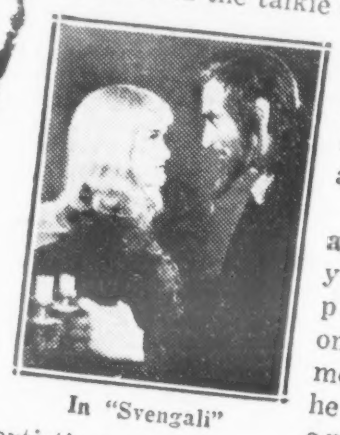
More praise was written by the New York critics for Barrymore's "Svengali" than any stage or screen performance in years.

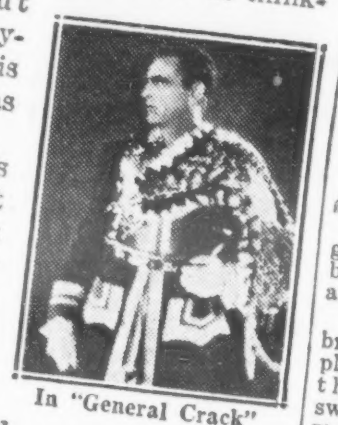
EDITORIAL

in May 2nd issue of N. Y. Daily News, largest circulation in America

JOHN BARRYMORE — THE GREATEST EVER?

John Barrymore is appearing in "Svengali" at one of the Broadway picture houses. The film has drawn the loud applause of the talkie critics. It has also started us thinking about John Barrymore and his eminence as an actor.


In "Svengali"


In "General Crack"

There is a belief that you can't pass finally on any man's merits until he is dead, or on any artistic product's worth until it is old.

Passing that belief by, though, couldn't you make out a pretty good case for this proposition: that John Barrymore is not only the greatest actor alive, but also the greatest actor that ever lived?

In "Moby Dick"

In 'Don Juan"

We see the classicists rising in wrath and horror all over the auditorium, with cries of "How about Booth? —How about Salvini? How about Irving, Tree, Forbes-Robertson?" —or some European stars unknown to most of us.

But let's look into this proposition. Is there any actor now alive who is greater than John Barrymore? Chaplin at once comes to mind. So does George Arliss. Chaplin is greater at comedy than Barrymore is—though Barrymore's "The Man From Blankley's" gave us as many laughs as any single Chaplin film ever did. Arliss is great at character portrayal, but comedy is not one of his strong points.

That illustrates what we're getting at. Barrymore has proved himself great at every kind of acting. Since his 1909 stage debut in the musical comedy "A Stubborn Cinderella," he has played every kind of role, both on stage and screen, and played magnificently in each.

He was a matinee idol of the great lover species in his younger years ("Don Juan" and many others); a superb character actor in such productions as "Sherlock Holmes" and "Moby Dick" and "Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"; an extractor of all the historical juice and flavor to be got out of such parts as that of Bonelli in "The Jest" and the hero of "General Crack." And he packed them in to real money as Hamlet for 100 nights on Broadway. That's unique.

Peter Ibbetson, Richard III. Think it over. Speaking of his private life, we can't resist telling once more the hoary old joke, which is said to be true, about his adventures in the San Francisco earthquake. Barrymore wasn't so well known then. He was dragged out of his bed in his crumbling hotel and put to work by the marines at cleaning up wreckage and digging for bodies. When Barrymore's uncle, John Drew, heard of the incident, he chuckled:

"Well, well, well! It took an earthquake to get Jack up in the morning, and the United States army to make him work! Haw!"

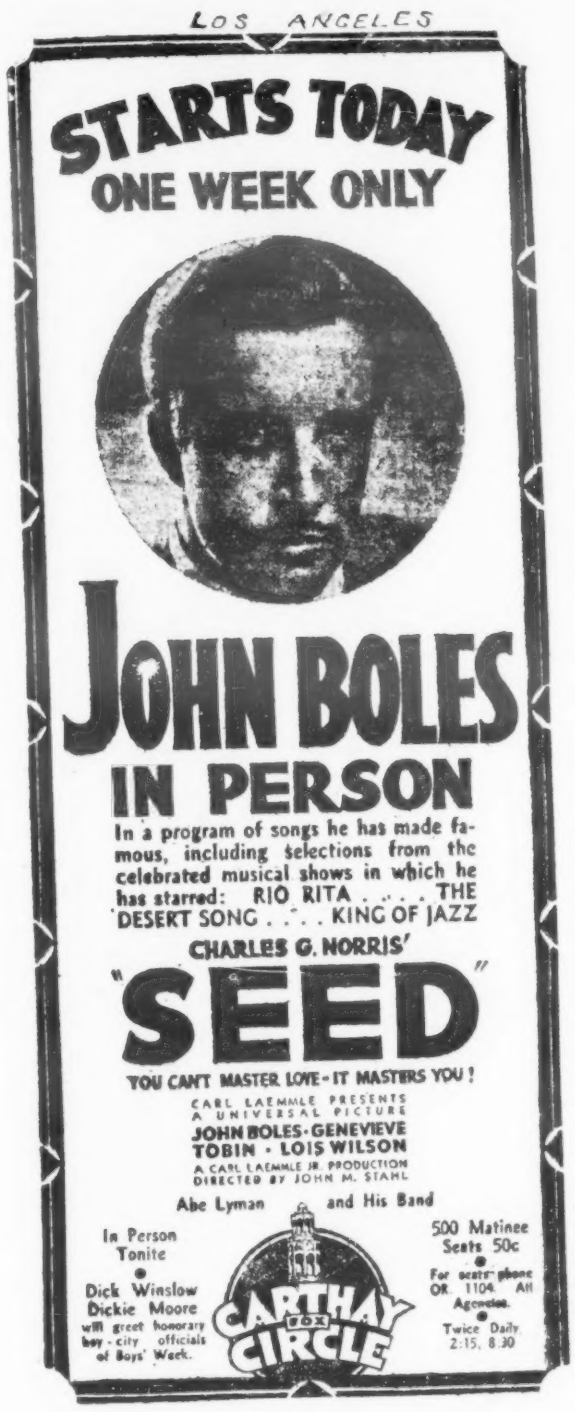
Anyway, as we were saying, we think a good case can be made out for the proposition that John Barrymore is the greatest actor yet seen in the world.

Capacity Business at Hollywood Theatre, N. Y. Play It Day and Date With Broadway

Depend on **WARNER BROS.**

Theatre Advertising as Indicated From Various Cities On Week Days

LOS ANGELES



NEW YORK CITY

MILWAUKEE

SEATTLE

INDIANAPOLIS

PHILADELPHIA

CHICAGO

EXPLOITATION

This department is almost entirely made up of matter from "Variety's" own correspondents. Seldom are any of the exploitation notes sent out by the home publicity offices of the chains used here.

"Variety's" correspondents have been requested to report on all local press or exploitation stunts that fail or prove too expensive for results achieved, as well as those which get over.

Ordinary or expected exploitation not included in this department. Repetition in several cities also excluded, after first mention, unless new angle is later developed.

In Armor on Horseback

Canton, O.

A draft horse with a ride in heavy armor and wearing a derby hat, lumbered through downtown traffic to remind the natives "A Connecticut Yankee" was to open at Warner's Palace. The stunt, by Manager George Reister, kept the Saturday crowds rubbernecking at the unusual spectacle.

Egyptian Comedy Contest

Cairo.

Anticipating the success of an Arabic talkie representing a comedy entitled "His Excellency Kish Kish Bey," Josy Palace has conducted a contest fo. essays on an Egyptian comedy of a light non-political character, allotting money prizes. Theme must characterize country life.

Contest runs until Sept. 1.

Picking Whiskers

Akron, O.

Loew's tied up with the Times Press, to run a series of photos of 10 citizens. A staff artist touched them up with whiskers. Cash prizes went to three who made the nearest correct guess to their identity, as well as several pairs of tickets to the theatre. Judges' decision on the best submitted was final. Twenty names of prominent Akronites were listed in the paper, from which the 10 were selected.

Stunt new, and brought out hundreds of contestants.

Telegrams for "Page"

Providence.

Effective stunt by Loew's State in connection with "Front Page." Namely, the sending of telegrams to leading manufacturing and business establishments in the city.

Telegrams were addressed to employes and were sent by special messengers. Much talk favorable to the house was the result. A tie-up was also made with the "News-Tribune" in which the locals were asked to turn reporters and write stories of true happenings. Cash prizes and duckets as the bait.

Subscription Hunch

Galveston, Tex.

Newspaper subscriptions for theatre tickets. Homer Le Tempt, manager of the Queen (Publix), worked in co-operation with the Galveston "News" to boost "Front Page."

Every new subscriber to the paper for six weeks got a pass to the show. Paper double columned the idea several days preceding opening of film.

Boys and Dogs

Portland, Ore.

Contest to find the "most American" boy and dog staged by Marc Bowman, Fox Broadway p. a., to plug "Skippy."

Local judges selected from lineup of boys and dogs outside the house every day from four to five p. m. Six daily. Six daily winners went inside to be picked by patr on last day.

Proved okay on a tie-up with a daily to exploit.

The Home Team

Milwaukee.

Wisconsin theatre invited the home ball team to the house before the first game of the season. Entire squad was brought out on the stage, speeches were made and pictures were shown of the boys in House tied up with the Milwaukee "Sentinel," and the result was a capacity evening. Stunt cost very little and drew a lot of attention.

Foyer Boat Show

Seattle.

Full fledged motor boat show reigned the past week at the Fifth Avenue. This was a foyer attraction and it really attracted.

A dozen craft were shown, together with parts and stripped engines.

College Rally

Seattle.

Plugging to send the U of Washington crew to Poughkeepsie, the drive opened on the campus and wound up at the Paramount with 25% of that day's gross going to the fund.

On the stage was the 60 piece college band, and other collegiate talent.

Police Effort to Halt—Helps

Cleveland.

Police made a good flop of Loew's State idea to exploit "City Streets." Gag created more excitement than it would have aroused if it had been unmolested.

Two ushers were given a bucket of paint and stencil reading "City Lights," and told to paint next to every city "Don't spit on sidewalk" sign.

But the boys got ambitious and decided to also stencil downtown sidewalks and even the city's ancient cannon in the Public Square. Police radio squad finally caught up with them, with the result that both ushers spent the night in the hoosegow for violating a city ordinance. Theatre manager finally got them released, but the cops made the boys go all over town washing out their signs during the rush hour. The cannon got its first bath in 75 years, and the crowds thought it was a double gag for the picture and a local clean-up week besides.

Denver's "Downtown Day"

Denver.

One of the most successful exploitations ever put over here is credited to Bert Henson, p. a. and Holden Swiger, manager of the Denver theatre.

Stunt was called "Downtown Day" and was put on in cooperation with all merchants in the downtown area. It took three months to work it up but the Retail Merchants Bureau wants to make it an annual event, with a similar stunt in the fall under a different name.

Theatre remained in the background and allowed the merchants to do the ad plugging for the day. Stores arranged with the tramway company to carry all passengers free between nine and 11 in the morning, the merchants paying this bill. Dailies carried at least 50% more display on Tuesday p. m. and Wednesday a. m. than usual. By 11 a. m. downtown theatres had longer lines than any Wednesday for months.

No particular effort by the stores to cut prices for the event, but they were crowded.

Air Contest as Check

Minneapolis.

Publix has inaugurated a four-weeks radio contest over WCCO. Cash prizes awarded to those sending in the best review on a picture witnessed at any local Publix house.

Purpose is to determine how completely the Minnesota broadcast covers the northwest division, to obtain public reaction on pictures, and to learn changes in public taste. Also plug Public, of course.

Believed the first instance of a radio tieup offering actual inducements for theatre attendance around this area.

Sweden Makes It Tough

Stockholm.

An effective newspaper tieup has been carried out a few times over here, but exploitation of this type is not easy in Stockholm.

Metro had a full page article recently in a morning daily, in which the author, the well known swimming champion, Arne Borg, described his meeting with Trader Horn on one of the Honolulu-San Francisco liners. The article was published, of course, in connection with the picture of that name.

Same paper, "Tidningen," also had a full page in a Sunday edition pertaining to spies, with photographs from Warners' "Three Faces East."

Newspaper tieups of this kind are difficult to secure as the article must be prepared in such a way that the publicity for the picture is not too obvious.

Quincy's Trade Jubilee

Quincy, Ill.

Quincy is contemplating a trade jubilee week of May 11. Publix has mailed out 15,000 tickets.

Stubs are good as admish any time during May for the Washington, Orpheum or Belasco, Publix houses. Mailing list was of representative people in neighboring cities.

Gruesome Bally

Wilmington, Del.

The Arcadia rigged an electric chair on the main signboard over the sidewalk for "The Gangster's Last Parade." Buzzer attachment gave the effect of juice being turned on.

Frequent remarks about the gruesomeness of the thing.

$5 Gold Pieces for $4.50

Columbus, O.

Metro's gag of sending out lads disguised as "Trader Horn" who sell $5 gold pieces for $4.50 went along all right here until the cops stepped in. That was the finish.

In Baltimore the same stunt received no official hindrance.

No Portland, Me., Buy

Report from Portland, Me., that Paramount is to purchase the Empire theatre in that city in settlement of a fede.al suit by the latter restraint-of-trade is n.g.

The action claiming $1,000,000 damages was brought on alleged grounds of restraint of trade but has been discontinued by consent of the parties. No settlement of any kind, according to information in New York, has been effected.

The suit was filed a year ago by Portland attorneys on the ground Par prevented the Empire Amusement Co., owners of the theatre in question, from obtaining product.

This action is not a suit pending against Par in Boston and brought under the legal maneuvering of the Boston Berensons.

PA. SOCKS SUN. BILL AGAIN

Harrisburg, Pa., May 5.

House of Representatives last night (Monday) defeated the Schwartz Bill, which would amend the ancient law to permit Sunday baseball from two to 5.30 p. m. Vote was 102 to 98. Constitutional majority of the House is 105.

Governor Pinchot has declared himself opposed to any amendment of the act of 1794.

Illinois Town's Sundays

Quincy, Ill., May 5.

Plymouth, Ill., has voted Sunday pictures and minnie golf.

Town is 40 miles east of here.

BEHIND THE KEYS

East Liverpool, O.

Columbia has signed an agreement with Local No. 123, terminating a 10-week strike. During it theatre owners refused to recognize the union.

Canton, O.

Orpheum, owned by Frank Nolan of Cleveland, will be razed for a department store building.

Los Angeles.

Walter Kofeldt, manager of the Fox Riverside, Riverside, Cal., assumes management of the new Fox Arlington, Santa Barbara, when that house opens May 15.

Floyd Rice, formerly in charge of Fox houses at Anaheim and Fullerton, a vanced to Kofeldt's old post.

Minneapolis.

George Hinton, in Paramount's local exchange for two years, has been transferred to Par's Omaha branch. Frank Eisenberg, sent there several months ago, comes back here.

Bronx.

A. Burt, formerly manager of the Lafayette theatre, is managing the Star for the new owners, Greenberg and Vinograd.

Bert Korbel out as manager of the Renaissance. No successor as yet.

Dave Bell and Herbert Moskowitz new treasurers at the Apollo theatre.

Los Angeles.

New owners of Calif. picture houses include O. T. Taylor with the Norwalk in Norwalk; Lee & Tracy, Colonial, in Orange. Houses closed are the Victory, Burbank; Riverside, L. A., and McFarland, McFarland.

Los Angeles.

Kenneth L. Eagon is assisting George Brown on RKO theatre exploitation.

Milwaukee.

Lawrence Shedd is the new manager of the RKO Palace-Orpheum. He succeeds Earl Payne, who took the managerial berth at the Warner Capitol, Chicago. Shedd comes from the RKO house in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Madison, Wis.

Chas. Loewenberg, formerly manager of the Fox houses here, promoted as assistant to state division manager Segelbaum.

Birmingham.

E. Sarphie is to open a theatre at Brookhaven, Miss., June 1.

Birmingham.

The Rex Theatre at Starkville, Miss., destroyed by fire. Operated by Raymond and Arthur Goodman. Damage estimated at $40,000 with about $12,000 insurance.

Los Angeles.

Arthur Esberg is here as assistant to Henry Goldenburg of RKO. He's being groomed for a theatre berth.

Oklahoma City.

D. L. Walsh has opened the Orpheum, Lawton, Okla.

Elks theatre, Olney, Ill., has been leased by Phil H. Heyde. House will be remodeled.

D. A. Bisagno has purchased the Isis theatre, Augusta, Kans.

Orville Smith has taken over the Delharco theatre, Jamestown, Kans.

Livingston theatre is being constructed in the Masonic Temple at Chillicothe, Mo.

Ozark theatre, Noel, Mo., has reopened.

Baltimore.

A shift in Loew's personnel brings Charles McCleary from Providence to replace A. H. Buhrig, Jr., as house manager of the Century. Buhrig goes to Canton, O.

Arnolt Stoltz succeeds Junior McGeehan as Loew publicity manager here.

Newark, N. J.

Warner changes include promotion of R. A. Riley, of the Regent, Elizabeth, to manager of the local Mosque. Robert Pashkow goes from the Mosque to become chief Jersey booker, while Frank Damis moves over to become the buyer.

Reno.

Bob Ray, manager of the three Fox theatres here for five years, and Jerry McKinley, organist, transferred to San Francisco. C. V. Taylor, sent from Frisco, temporarily in charge.

Charleston, W. Va.

The Greenbrier has opened. House is owned by Thomas Popp and has cut prices to half that charged by Warners' two houses and two independent theatres here.

Los Angeles.

With the Chinese darkening for a month for lack of $1.50 product, Don McElwaine and Jack Dailey return to the Fox-WC home publicity offices. Gabe Yorke also recalled E. A. Patterson from the Criterion, placing Ken McGaffney in that downtown spot. McGaffney was formerly press man for Belasco & Curran legit. Eddie Eckles and Tom Wood have resigned from the Fox-WC publicity staff.

Nashua, Ia.

Dr. E. S. Taylor has purchased the Grand theatre building from Andrew Nelson of Charles City. No announcement on future use.

Akron, O.

Norka theatre went dark May 5 and will be rebuilt. New equipment will be installed and capacity increased from 663 to 800. Reopens in September.

Canton, O.

Windsor, neighborhood, reopens after renovation and installation of new equipment.

Feld's Air Tour

Miltor H. Feld, Publix divisional director, will tour of his deluxe operations within a month.

Feld will go south and probably to the coast, using a plane most of the time.

BURT KELLY JOINS ED.

Burt Kelly, assistant to Arthur Mayer on mid-west theatre operation for Paramount-Publix, is leaving that circuit to go with Educational as assistant to Earl Hammonds.

Kelly closes at P-P next Saturday (9) and opens at Educational the following Monday.

April Production Survey

Hollywood, May 5.

After the nicely rounded feature production curve in March, the two months low came April 6 with only 23 feature units active. Gradual build to 32 was reached April 22, and levelled out there. For a two-day peak in the closing week 33 features were active.

April averaged five features less than March, caused mainly by Radio's drop from a six unit to a two unit production schedule, Paramount dropped from six to four, and both Warners and Metro had one unit less than in March.

The Fox lot offered some compensation by a spurting from four to seven. Universal came back into the picture the last two weeks with two features and some shorts. Several comedy units averaged under four, a drop of one.

As against 28 features, completed during the month, 33 went into production during April.

Features Completed on the Coast in April, 1931

(Including Three Foreign Versions)

	Shooting Days		Shooting Days
WARNER-FN		**FOX**	
"Upper Underworld"	28	"Young Sinners"	30
"Smart Money"	28	"Black Camel"	28
"We Three"	26	"Always Goodbye"	27
"Expensive Women"	24	"Cuerpo y Alma" (Spanish)	11
"Mad Genius"	22	**PARAMOUNT**	
RADIO		"An American Tragedy"	34
"Young Donovan's Kid"	28	"Lawyer's Secret"	25
"White Shoulders"	27	"Vice Squad"	24
"High Stakes"	19	**COLUMBIA**	
"Everything's Rosie"	18	"Miracle Woman"	29
METRO		"Good, Bad Girl"	18
"A Free Soul"	37	**MISCELLANEOUS**	
"Dancing Partners"	25	"Rebound" (RKO-Pathe)	33
"Girls Together"	24	"Two-Gun Man" (Tiffany)	13
"Parlor, Bedroom, Bath" (German)	12	"Comedian" (Spanish) (Amer-Anglo)	12
		"In Old Cheyenne" (Webb-Mitchell)	8
		"God's Country & t'Man" (Carr)	6
		"Inside Story (Chesterfield)	6

APRIL PRODUCTION AVERAGES

In 14 Active Coast Studios

(Chaplin, United Artists, Darmour, Educational, Roach Dark)

	April 1931 Units Active			Year Averages		
Feature Studios	Feature	Short	Total	1930	1929	1928
Fox	7.1	..	7.1	5.8	6.1	6.8
Warner-FN	4.7	.7	5.4	6.8	8.1	13.1
Paramount	4.2	..	4.2	4.5	4.0	7.4
Metro	4.1	..	4.1	5.4	5.1	5.3
RKO-Pathe	2.2	1.5	3.7	2.2	1.4	2.1
Radio	2.5	.4	2.9	2.9	2.0	2.3
Columbia	1.7	.2	1.9	2.1	1.5	2.3
Universal	.7	.3	1.0	3.8	5.7	4.2
Tiffany	.3	..	.3	1.7	1.5	2.5
Leasing Studios						
Metropolitan	.3	.5	.8	1.9	2.9	2.6
National	.5	..	.5	.4	.7	.8
Cinephone	.2	..	.2	..	..	..
Tec-Art	..	.1	.1	1.3	1.9	2.3
Comedy Studios						
Sennett	..	.2	.2	.7	1.0	1.0
Working Daily	28.5	3.9	32.4	39.5	41.9	52.7

(Average of total units daily, 1931: January, 35; February, 33.5; March, 38.5; April, 32.4)

THE OLD FIGHTIN' COCK

Calls out the Box-office crowds

TO THE YEAR'S
BIGGEST SENSATION →

RKO PATHÉ

2

CONSTANCE BENNETT

in BORN TO LOVE

with
JOEL McCREA
Story by
ERNEST PASCAL
Directed by
PAUL L. STEIN

nd RECORD CRASHING WEEK ! !

MAYFAIR, New York
STATE LAKE, Chicago
BOYD, Philadelphia

Book it—and
Bank book it NOW!

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RKO PATHÉ

TALKING SHORTS

BOBBY JONES
"HOW I PLAY GOLF
"THE PUTT-R"
14 Mins.
Hollywood, New York
WB—No. 1

A pleasure. And smart enough to reach outside of golf circles to entertain. That means comedy and at least two names besides Bobby Jones'. Richard Barthelmess and Joe Brown are included. Frank Craven is present, but picture audiences aren't so familiar with the latter, who is prominent enough in legit. Many a small house will play this golf series as a program leader. If they're all as good as the first one these shorts can stand the top billing for intermediate capacities.

That this one spills over a full reel is a help for featuring purposes. It's likely that the remainder will do the same. Yet there is no tendency to overemphasize or prolong the instructing phase. Jones gives his advice concisely and clearly to the extent that probably not four minutes of the 14 are devoted to actual instruction. The remaining footage is taken up in a links duel between Brown and Craven, with Jones coaching the latter into ultimate victory on the green.

It opens as O. B. Keller chatters off screen while the Emperor is seen warming up with a wood club and long iron. Not 10% of the golf contingent will ever understand what Keeler is talking about in lieu of watching the Atlanta lad hitting them out there. A dark mountain background, permitting the flight of the ball to be followed, completely kills off what little chance Keeler has in the first place.

Barthelmess' introduction is casual in that he walks over to the champ, calling attention to Brown and Craven duelling their way up the 18th fairway. Brown finally holes out from a trap and Craven blows a two-foot putt. Thence Craven's introduction to Jones which leads to the outdoor schoolroom.

Jones covers grip, stance and stroking, as he does it, very briefly. The camera goes to closeups on the grip and slow motion for the backswing. The wizard figuratively only putts three times, from 20 or 25 feet, but two of 'em lay up there within a foot and the second drops in.

Following the brief lesson the now cocky Craven challenges Brown to putt it out, double or nothing, and he drops his first one as Jones watches.

G. E. Marshall is directing the Jones series and Frank Kesson is cameraman. Both have done splendid inaugural jobs. Recording is good, and that southern drawl of Jones' is distinctly pleasant. His personality is refreshing and his demeanor always modest. It's noticeable that Jones never makes demands or says "Play it this way." It's either a suggestion from him or "I'll try to show you."

A corking short from all angles and of general interest. The Warner intention is to include different picture personalities in each episode as the series progresses through all the clubs to the driver, and the tee shot will be the finale.

Extreme finish here has Jones pitching balls over the camera, indicating the nature of the next release and which is so announced by Keeler—with O. B. still a poor second any time Jones starts to swing. *Sid.*

"NESTING HABITS"
Educational
12 Mins.
8th St. Playhouse, N. Y.
Ufa

Synchronized short with titles. Evidently intended as a subject for school room, even having a number of questions stuck in at the end, as well as suggested further study on the subject. For picture houses this last ought to be cut. Probably won't find much booking, because it's inclined to be dull.

Shows the manner in which different birds build their nests, and is quite thorough along that line. Includes eagles and vultures. Trouble largely is that after half of the running time subject gets monotonous. If cut down to half its present it would find spotting.

Ufa has managed to place a considerable number of their educational shorts in American schools and institutions and are evidently now attempting to find them picture house booking. Photography okay.

"UNDER PAR"
Johnny Farrell
10 Mins.
Globe, New York
Pathe

Maybe the best of the Johnny Farrell reels so far. This one is fair.

Of particular interest to golfers, with Farrell's instructive talking on form, etc., are shots of various tournaments in which Farrell played. Lifted from newsreels but they serve their purpose here.

Farrell makes no comedy attempt in his dialog. That's possibly a mistake. *Char.*

MARY WIGMAN
Dancing
12 Mins.
Little Carnegie, N. Y.
R. D. V.

Mary Wigman is Germany's finest dancer of the modern school. She has enjoyed considerable success on a number of American concert tours. Whether she means anything to the average picture audience is doubtful.

Miss Wigman does four of her regular numbers in this short. Those who go for aesthetic dancing will probably enthuse. But even at the Little Carnegie, with its arty atmosphere and despite the fact that a foreword explains she is the greatest German living dancer, there were a number of snickers.

Hard to figure where an audience can be found that would care for this sort of thing over here. Bad photography doesn't help.

"SIAM"
Travelog
8 Mins.
Embassy, New York
Fox

Most of this one reeler on Siam is confined to King Pradjihipok, in contrast to the better travelog formula of accentuating unusual native and geographical views. It's the second of Fox's "Magic Carpet" releases to date.

When the royal vacation route loses its interest—the White Plains jump-breaker looks like the blowoff.

The brief glimpses of Siamese life as it's lived by the non-royal Siamesians, or Siamesers, concern mainly a canal city. Camera is on a boat and always on the move.

Royal governmental and military maneuvers are much like the average uniform parade. The King is shown on his annual departure from the palace, with the music and marching making it seem like a funeral. King also in the most interesting chapter, that on the royal troupe of femme angle hoofers. The girls make 75 degree gestures with their arms and feet to tin music, and over there it's dancing. This is spotted during the native rite of royally confirming the princesses of the Siamese ruling family upon their coming of age. *Bige.*

"TWISTED TALE"
Comedy
18 Mins.
Globe, New York
Pathe

Slender on laughs although a situation of mistaken identity has considerable slapstick novelty. Henpecking wife mistakes a real lion for the runout husband who wanted to go to a costumen party dressed as the king of beasts. Fair for most spots.

Best laughs are by a drunk who also mistakes the lion, both doing a slapping act and the mugg taking it on the chin heavy. Scene is cleverly shot and cut.

Cast includes Arthur Housman, Marion Douglas, Gertrude Astor and Lorin Raker. *Char.*

"TRAFFIC TROUBLES"
Cartoon
7 Mins.
Roxy, New York
Columbia

Not so much talk and music in this one but plenty of action around a taxi. Neither above or below others in this series.

Mickey Mouse has a cab which behaves in a human manner, jumping out of the way of other cars, etc. Some novelty derived from that and the way the car runs away in a fit after trying a tonic.

Drawing well defined, photog clear and recording passable. *Char.*

"ROUMANIA"
Travelog
11 Mins.
8th St. Playhouse, N. Y.
Ufa

Another of Ufa's educational shorts for schoolroom purposes, this one having a lecture dubbed. Shows various industries of Roumania and gives a pretty good idea of the country's various occupations. Too long and badly put together for theatres.

Photography is bad and not enough voice texture, which makes the lecture increasingly monotonous.

FOWL BALL
Cartoon
6 Mins.
Little Carnegie, N. Y.
Universal

Starts out exceptionally well but weakens. Total is just fair. Four of the six minutes are used up singing "Johnny Smoker."

Draws are clever and not particularly reminiscent of other cartoons.

Miniature Reviews

"Svengali" (WB). A slow and old fashioned melodrama. May draw fair grosses but doesn't promise more than that. Costume film with a tragic ending. The Barrymore name should help but despite his excellent performance there's still box-office doubt.

"The Secret Six" (M-G). Gang talker with nothing new or worth while in it other than Wallace Beery. Beery's role is against him. Ordinary picture in flood of mob films.

"Tarnished Lady" (Par). Tallulah Bankhead's first film. A poor picture that fits the straight grinds best. Heavy production but too ponderous to mean anything.

"Three Girls Lost" (Fox). Not quite up to average and will need strong salesmanship. Title probably more of a draw than names of Loretta King and John Wayne.

"Subway Express" (Col). Questionable as an average money-getter. Will need unusually strong support anywhere and mostly a class B leader.

"Ladies Man" (Par). William Powell starred but a poor picture. Gigolo story's main b. o. chance is its star's draw, and the film's future looks decidedly unsettled.

"Too Young to Marry" (FN). Small grind fare. No action and dialog uninteresting.

"The Texas Ranger" (Col). Good fodder for the 10-15 theatres going for westerns.

"Student Sein" (Ines). Mediocre German musical film of student life. Laid in Wurzburg University.

"Rider of the Plains" (Syndicate). Oke western for lesser theatre use. Could stand in these houses as single feature.

"Liebeswalzer" (Ufa). German musical which ought to please Germans. Inane story but well played and produced.

"Kid from Arizona" (Cosmos). Weak western. Double feature bills only.

MARTINELLI
"The Troubadour"
Vocal and Dancing
7 Mins.
Hollywood, N. Y.
Vitaphone No. 1226

The well-known operatic tenor again, but in a somewhat lighter and better vein for screen consumption. There is also the addition of a standard team of ballroom dancers, Fowler and Tamara. If this pair's name was on the lead title it was muffed. Otherwise, they're unbilled. Better geared to audience reaction than the Martinelli shorts in the past.

It's a Spanish patio setting into which strolls the singing Martinelli, who opens and closes the reel with different numbers. Both tunes are livelier than the usual heavy operatic passages. The corresponding background action also is more gay than usual for this artist.

In the middle of the running Fowler and Tamara trot out a fast tempoed tango fringed with adagio work to good effect. *Sid.*

"THE KING'S ARMADA"
Novelty
8 Mins.
Embassy, N. Y.
Fox

Aside from the departure and landings from and on an airplane carrier at sea, this talker on the British navy holds slight value for any but Britishers.

Little action, with practically none outside the aviation sequence. The panorama views of the fleet at anchor are pretty, but quiet. Big gun discharges, usually the climax and best part of American navy clips in the newsreels, are absent here.

Short is the third of Fox Movietone's "Magic Carpet" single reel travelogs and played on the regular newsreel bill at the Embassy. As presented it seemed to include the least interesting affairs of Britain's great flotilla. *Bige.*

"SUNNY SOUTH"
Cartoon
5 Mins.
Globe, New York
Universal

Considerably below par for cartoons and plenty repetitious. Majority of the action centers around the animal character, Oswald the Rabbit, as the engineer of a train. But little happens. Last shots built around his welcome on coming back to mammy-land.

Photography under average in spots and drawing not as clear as in most cartoons. *Char.*

SVENGALI

Warner Bros. production and release. Stars John Barrymore and features Marian Marsh. Based on the novel by George L. Du Maurier; adaptation and dialog by J. G. Alexander; cameraman, Barney McGill. Directed by Archie Mayo. At Hollywood, New York, on grind run, starting May 1. Running time, 79 mins.

Svengali ..... John Barrymore
Trilby ..... Marian Marsh
Billee ..... Bramwell Fletcher
The Laird ..... Donald Crisp
Taffy ..... Lumsden Hare
Honori ..... Carmel Myers
Gecko ..... Luis Alberni
Manager ..... Paul Porcasi

"Svengali" doesn't unwind as an important money entry for a couple of reasons. In performance John Barrymore takes care of everything. So much so they won't go away remembering much of anybody or anything else. Which isn't the particular reaction desired as regards Marian Marsh whom Warners would like to build up, with the studio picking this picture as a choice launching point.

Formerly well known as "Trilby," via famed novel and stage interpretations, the studio has renamed it to designate the villainous hypnotist as the leading character. And just how far the modern picture patron will go for mesmerism is the question. Besides which "Svengali" classes as a costume picture and both principal characters die at the finish. Its b. o. prospects are but fair.

Mental telepathy as a means of inducing a girl to call at early hours lays itself wide open to skepticism during a film era which has the boys clipping their girl friends on the chin if they don't behave or pushing grapefruit in their face to signify that only the melody lingers on.

Barrymore's hypnotic powers are interesting until getting a look at Miss Marsh as Trilby under an unbecoming wig. After which a lot of people will figure it's a waste of expert concentration. If Archie Mayo, the director, hadn't slipped in the half-masked shot of Trilby posing in the nude before an artists' class, it was a cinch Svengali could have done better right on the Warner lot. But that one scene, hinting at much more than it shows, also infers that Tril was the Miss France of her day and Svengali isn't the chump that wig makes him out to be.

Productionally the picture is heavy and atmospherically well cameraed to conform with the unkempt music teacher of unnatural powers whom they have to throw in a tub to make him take a bath. Story, of course, is well known, but Svengali here makes it clear that Trilby, the model, has been the house guest of several artists so that her desire to become legally attached to the pursuing young Englishman is not going to be without family difficulties. He hynotizes her into running away with him and also into a career as a concert star. But she can only sing when Svengali's head lights are picking out the road, and Barney McGill's photography has taken special pains to create the illusion of the power in Sven's orbs.

Barrymore's playing is interesting, sterling and in broad strokes. It is not necessarily his fault the character seems especially fictional at this date. Besides which the tempo of the film is slow from start to finish. Svengali's bearded and soiled appearance will not particularly intrigue the American adolescents, but most will agree that Barrymore gives a fine performance and let it go at that—which is not enough for the screen. A quality performance might hold up a show by itself. But not for pictures. The audiences are different.

Miss Marsh takes a change for the better on looks in the late footage, but flashes nothing unusual histrionically. Her simulating of the vocal sequences is good, although an unfortunate bit of mistiming during the final vocal effort tipped off to the extent of causing a house murmur here.

Donald Crisp and Lumsden Hare are hiding behind whiskers and are merely accessories, while Bramwell Fletcher is rather colorless as the British boy who fails in his quest for Trilby. Carmel Myers, however, helps the picture on its way in the first reel through establishing as a wayward wife, the fascination of Svengali for women. No doubling for Miss Myers during this singing lesson sequence for she has a voice, but Mayo has given her a prolonged moaning exit which is not only awkward to her, but the picture as well. It draws giggles.

Back in '15 "Trilby" was turned out in five reels as a silent by Equitable with Clara Kimball Young in the title role and Wilton Lackaye as Svengali, which he had also stage-starred. It's now in something over seven reels and could have stood trimming as an aid to pace.

The press sheet on "Svengali" reproduces a poster to be used by exhibs to announce its second week, implying that those Svengali eyes are peering through rose colored glasses. *Sid.*

THE SECRET SIX

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production and release. Wallace Beery starred. Lewis Stone, John Mack Brown, Jean Harlow and Marjorie Rambeau featured. Directed by George Hill. Scenario and dialog by Frances Marion. Cameraman, Harold Wenstrom. At the Capitol, N. Y., week of May 1. Running time, 80 minutes.

Scorpio ..... Wallace Beery
Newton ..... Lewis Stone
Hank ..... John Mack Brown
Anne ..... Jean Harlow
Peaches ..... Marjorie Rambeau
Mizoski ..... Paul Hurst
Carl ..... Clark Gable
Johnny Franks ..... Ralph Bellamy
Colimo ..... John Miljan
Donlin ..... DeWitt Jennings
Metz ..... Murray Kinnel
Delano ..... Fletcher Norton
Eddie ..... Louis Natheaux
Judge ..... Frank McGlynn

A gangster talker too rough, crude and familiar for even a gangster story. It's full of familiarities, going back to first principles of the gangster stuff on the screen and has liberally borrowed from all other similar stories in film. Besides making its star, Wallace Beery, the snake kind of gangster who always shoots his victims in the back. Finish has Beery about to be executed for murder and the finale otherwise is very badly done. Leaving only Beery for the draw and hurting Beery's attraction power through casting him in this sort of repulsive role.

In big cities this picture may pull the roughneck trade which all gangster films do and it will do that at the Capitol for a week, but the vocalized expression for "The Secret Six" will be adverse and light. It's a bad gangster film in every way excepting for the bit of natural humor Beery cannot help but inject into it.

For women or children this film hasn't a chance excepting perhaps to turn any women or children who like Beery away from him. This is but one of the many studio faults the talker seems to contain. In its rush for speed, anything and everything was thrown in, bits and shootings, mostly shootings, so many they become too heavy a load for logical acceptance. Beery is always chewing tobacco, spitting and shooting a pal in the back or shooting other gangsters or trying to make his pals' molls. At one moment he has the leader of the other mob calling upon him in friendliness only to be shot in the back as he departs. But this time Beery has a henchman do it. A reporter is shot in a crowded subway train, and with "Subway Express" at the Strand concurrently.

Newspaper reporters who can't be bribed with gold cigaret cases filled with $1,000 bills, a chief of police who organizes the Secret Six to clean out the gangsters after the chief had been removed by the new gangster-mayor, and the small town near a big city again, with Cicero and Chicago plainly indicated, while the Joe Colimo of the story will be easily linked with a notorious joint operator of Chicago of several years ago shot by gangland, but not in the back.

The Secret Six is barely seen. It's another title for a vigilante committee. How Metro could forego calling "The Secret Six" "The Secret Sex" is more remarkable than anything in the picture.

Beery opens as a $35 a week mechanic in the Chicago stockyards. He goes to gang leadership in double time then to wealth and a luxurious home, to wind up in a murder trial as the defendant. Other than a laugh gotten by Beery in the court room, that sequence is particularly vapid.

Beery gives the expected performance, if you can overlook the role itself. Lewis Stone does the crafty lawyer-director of Slaughter House's mob. Slaughter House is Beery's gang title. Paul Hurst is playing straight. John Mack Brown and Clark Gable are the juv reporters. Brown is better here than in some time. Gable is likeable.

Jean Harlow is another dame and plays it that way, with her best bit in the court room. Marjorie Rambeau has but a little bit, making that tell toward the finish, as another of the dame hangers-on of the hoodlums.

Rather old fashioned nowadays on the screen for opposition mobs to be shooting at one another from closed cars. That was the style in the first gangster pictures. There isn't much newer than that in this one, excepting perhaps an adaptation from a recent newspaper story or two of new events in gangland.

This picture ordinarily would call for stage support in its week stands. It's questionable if a stage show would aid it. It's one of those that must stand or fall by itself with the chances on its falling. *Sime.*

TARNISHED LADY

Paramount production and release. Costars Tallulah Bankhead and Clive Brook. Directed by George Cukor. Story and adaptation by Donald Ogden Stewart. Photographer, Larry Williams. At the Rivoli, New York, for grind run beginning April 29. Running time, 80 mins.

Nancy Courtney ..... Tallulah Bankhead
Norman Cravath ..... Clive Brook
Germaine Prentiss ..... Phoebe Foster
DeWitt Taylor ..... Alexander Kirkland
Ben Sterner ..... Osgood Perkins
Mrs. Courtney ..... Elizabeth Patterson

London's appreciation of Tallulah Bankhead as an actress is corroborated in the Alabama girl's first film. The picture, however, only grades to

average grind muster. Bad story treatment and poor production plus inferior photography ruins the b. o. chances of the film. Much inaction besides. Plot is laboriously complex and unbelievably incoherent. In basic essence it's about two society women, their lovers and how all cross each other's paths.

This weepy and ragged melo has little outside its cast to be recommended. And Miss Bankhead tops that cast. Returning to America and in pictures instead of the stage, Miss Bankhead unquestionably possesses b. o. possibilities. She has personality, charm and a voice loaded with s. a.

No doubt that the makers of the film attempted to do right by Miss Bankhead and her London rep. That's where the fault lies, in the obvious attempt to outglorify the glorified. Everything is overdone. If checked it might be found that this picture can count more costly settings than any talker yet made.

In the story after she has left her husband and is on the downgrade, upon finding her former lover is having an affair with her rival girl friend, the many speaks Miss Bankhead visits would even surprise prohibition officers. One rub on the story end is that Donald Ogden Stewart, its author, is widely repped. Treatment of the script bears a striking resemblance to native British productions. It is conjecture that the producers may have tried to impress a British attitude on the picture for consumption abroad. If so, it's to the detriment of the film's bigger field in the States.

Miss Bankhead doesn't get the best of it on makeup or lighting and there are numerous incongruous story passages. One glaring piece is where the heroine (Bankhead) is told by her platonic business friend that she is to have a baby. That a woman must be told such a thing by a boy friend, and in the matter-of-fact way that Osgood Perkins breaks the news, brings a reverse laugh. Also a broad attempt to dramatize Miss Bankhead is when she leaves her husband (Clive Brook) on the day he goes broke in the market. Nothing spoken about or shown in the prior action makes this sequence even plausible.

Cast, as a whole, deports in a manner suggesting they were under orders to give way before Miss Bankhead's. Clive Brook suffers the most. Ordinarily a fine actor he slumps here in trying to get over some of the silly dialog. Phoebe Foster, who plays the femme nemesis, and in a totally unsympathetic role, gives an even performance. Alexander Kirkland, from legit, is best in the latter half of the picture, or where he doesn't speak, but mostly grimaces.

Miss Bankhead sings once or twice during the film with an appealing voice. With careful handling and proper treatment she has a screen future. But this release will not impress other than unfavorably as a whole. *Shan.*

THREE GIRLS LOST

Fox production and release. A. L. Rockett, associate producer. Directed by Sidney Lanfield. Based on story by R. D. Andrews. Adaptation and dialog by Bradley King. Photographer, L. W. O'Connell. Sound, Alfred Bruzlin. At the Roxy, N. Y., week of May 1. Running time, 72 mins.

Noreen McMann.....Loretta Young
Gordon Wales.....John Wayne
William Marriott.....Lew Cody
Edna Best.....Joyce Compton
Marcia Tallant.....Joan Marsh
Mrs. McGree.....Kathrin Clare Ward
Tony.....Paul Fix

Proper exploitation and selling may put this one across to moderate figures, but it's going to need adroit handling. On merit, the picture is a shade thinner than the average on both story and punch. Thoughtful direction and some dialog that registers help make up for the thin foundation.

More can be expected from the tease in the title than from the cast names. Loretta Young is the best known. John Wayne looks as if he'll come along if getting the right stories. Wayne has a fine speaking voice and a pleasing manner.

Yarn concerns the adventures of three young girls from small towns who go to Chicago to make good. Two seem to do all right, but the third goes bad. Going gold-digger, Joan Marsh makes good in that direction without much trouble until dumbly involving a second string boy friend in a gang murder, to whose rescue eventually comes one of the other girls secretly in love with him from the start. Not much of a plot, but it manages to move around sufficiently to keep away from slowness and maintains a fair interest through suspense.

Lew Cody is the heavy and does nicely with it, but there's a poor performance by Paul Fix, backwoods swain, who gets unintentional laughs. *Char.*

Tapped for $600

Oklahoma City, May 5.

Dale C. Boughmon, manager for Warner's Liberty theatre, was beaten and bound by a yeggman last week. Bandit made his escape with over $600 in currency.

SUBWAY EXPRESS

Columbia production and release. Based on play by Eva Kay Flint and Martha Madison. Adaptation and dialog by Earl Snell. Directed by Fred Newmeyer. Assistant director, David Selman. Photography, Joseph Walker. Sound, E. L. Bernds. Editor, Arthur Huffsmith. At the Globe, N. Y., week of April 30. Running time, 67 mins.

Killian.....Jack Holt
Dale Tracy.....Aileen Pringle
Kearney.....Fred Kelsey
Tracy.....Alan Roscoe
Bordon.....Jason Robards
Stevens.....Sidney Bracy
Mason.....Selmer Jackson
Mr. Cotton.....William Humphrey
Mrs. Cotton.....Ethel Wales
Mrs. Mullins.....Julianne Leighton
Mulvaney.....James Goss
Prizefighter.....Mason Williams

Wordy, slow and often tiring to point of restlessness, "Subway Express" immediately reflects as the type of material that isn't for pictures. If so, it hasn't been adapted to the screen for full measure. It is away from the money and in need of strong support, exploitation and otherwise, in a majority of houses.

Picture looks like the splashiest commercial yet. Plenty of shots giving full benefit to a score of national advertisers. This occurs through photographing the entire action in a subway train and from some of the stations. In its attempt to reproduce a subway train the studio has gone for every detail, that taking in the signs.

Fact that the action takes place entirely in one car, with only one or two shots on stations or along the tracks, makes "Subway Express" something of an anomaly to the picturegoer. It seems like a one set film. This, if nothing else, gives the reaction of slowness and monotony.

Story revolves around a murder committed in the subway through ingeniously arranged wiring causing a shock sufficient to kill. In order to involve the murderer the victim is also shot.

Long drawn-out questioning of nearly every passenger on the train and re-questioning until it hurts. For comedy there is considerable from a cop (Fred Kelsey), an old lady (Julianne Leighton) and a palooka (Mason Williams), with the dumb flatfoot drawing most of the laughs.

Jack Holt has a tough assignment here as the inspector called to investigate. After third-degreeing nearly every one in the car he finds his man.

Dialog is no more than average, if that, and the direction by Fred Newmeyer far from inspired.

Questionable whether outside of New York the novelty of having a picture shot entirely in the subway will mean a great deal, as the basic material doesn't seem to be there. *Char.*

LADIES' MAN

Paramount production and release. Stars William Powell. Directed by Lothar Mendes. Adapted by Herman J. Mankiewicz from Rupert Hughes' story. At the Paramount, N. Y., week of April 30. Running time, 76 mins.

James Darricott .....William Powell
Norma Page .....Kay Francis
Rachel Fendley .....Carole Lombard
Horace Fendley .....Gilbert Emery
Mrs. Fendley .....Olive Tell
Anthony Fendley .....Martin Burton
Peyton Weldon .....John Holland
Valet .....Frank Atkinson
Therese Blanton ....Maude Turner Gordon

First rate production of a second rate story. But that's not enough and the b. o. result will be light. Yarn is morbid, depressing and slow. Acting is good, but the plot nullifies the acting.

This theme about a Park Avenue gigolo may interest women more than the men, but isn't likely to attract either in large numbers. The margin above low grosses will come strictly through the star, William Powell, which gives "Ladies Man" a chance at moderate figures.

Story gets little help from the dialog. This is stilted and trite, written and delivered as hibrow stuff as a lowbrow might imagine it—short sentences, with hesitations and uncompleted utterances meant to convey deep thought but conveying nothing.

It's rather silly the way Powell has so many women chasing him. Rupert Hughes' giggle is first shown working his wiles on the matronly Mrs. Fendley, mother of a grown son and daughter. It's James Darricott's had break—the ladies call him Jamie—to have Mrs. Fendley's senseless daughter fall for him also and get him into trouble, and to fall in love himself with still another girl. As they are awaiting Powell in the ballroom to start the grand march of Mrs. Fendley, Mr. Fendley is upstairs choking the gig and throwing him off the roof.

There are few comedy possibilities in such a yarn. As played here it is tragedy all the way with no laughs to relieve.

Excellent production provides a striking background but the trimmings won't sell the article. There are good examples of type playing by Olive Tell and Carole Lombard, as mother and daughter. Kay Francis' chief handicaps are an overly romantic, fireless part and a new coiffeure.

The picture isn't apt to help Powell. *Rige.*

Too Young to Marry

First National production and release. Loretta Young and Grant Withers featured. From the play by Martin Flavin. Directed by Mervyn Leroy. At Warners, New York, week of May 2. Running time, 57 mins.

Elaine.....Loretta Young
Bill.....Grant Withers
Cyrus Bumpstead.....O. P. Heggie
Mrs. Bumpstead.....Emma Dunn
Justice of the Peace,
J. Farrell McDonald
Sam Green.....Lloyd Neal
Chester Armstrong.....Richard Tucker
Myra.....Virginia Sale
Mabel.....Aileen Carslile

Small town story of no kick and uninteresting angle.

It's about a common scold woman who browbeats her family and when she finally decides to leave her husband for another man, she learns he is a fake. An intervening romance is spotted without much understanding. Photography is fair but the drab sets and continuous dialog without action detracts from entertainment. Mostly for lesser grind bills.

O. H. Heggie, legit player, the only cast member to display any depth, despite an incongruous part.

As the domineering wife of a small town store clerk Emma Dunn does elocutionary calisthenics but no acting. Miss Young is the usual sweet thing that strikes against her ma's domineering manner and sides with the father. They kiss often and even count the times for the audience. That's kindergarten conception of romance.

Usual sequence where the henpecked hubby asserts himself. He permits his youngest daughter to marry a grocery boy against his wife's objections. During and before this the flare for comedy reaction is by breaking dishes. It all winds up happily for everybody but the audience. *Shan.*

Das Gelbe Haus Des King Fu

("The Yellow House of King Fu")
(GERMAN MADE)

Berlin, April 25.

Emelka-Pathe-Natan production. Emelka release. Direction Karl Grune. Manuscript, Rudolf Katscher and Egon Eis, after the stage play "The Yellow House of Rio," by Josef M. Velter. Composition Friedrich Hollaender. Photography, Werner Brandes. Recorded on RCA. Starring Charlotte Susa, Gustav Diessl, Carl Guenther, Carla Gidt, Willy Prager, Paul Graetz, Huszar-Puffy, Louis Ralph and Jaro Fuerth. Running time, 75 minutes. At Capitol, Berlin.

A failure. Manuscript, direction and performance impossible. During the performance the audience protested loudly and hissed. Nobody but the director, Karl Grune, is to blame. Not in one single scene did he give proof of his former talent.

Grune, who once upon a time produced the fine pictures, "Die Strasse" ("The Street") and "Schlagende Wetter," has today reached a dead point. It will be necessary for him to pull himself together energetically to get over it. There seems to be only one solution, to begin all over, to establish the proper link with the world in general.

Waste of time to say anything about the entirely misdirected actors. The charm and beauty of the heroine, Charlotte Susa, who personally had the courage to appear before the curtain for her director in spite of the hissing, should be mentioned. She actually was able to appease the audience to such an extent they applauded. *Magnus.*

THE TEXAS RANGER

Columbia picture and release. Directed by Ross Lederman. Features Buck Jones and Carmelita Geraghty. At Loew's New York, one day, May 4, as single feature. Running time, 65 mins.

The galleries will delight their fans with this one. It has everything in the shootin' and ridin' style that the silents had. Houses charging a quarter and under can book it for one day with the certainty that it will please.

Buck Jones does a masquerade until he determines that it wasn't Carmelita Geraghty who shot someone else's brother. Then he blossoms out in full Ranger fashion and there's the grand finale with the troop answering the summons.

Feud opens the action when homesteaders are burned out by a gang set on sub-dividing. First heavy artillery then with Carmelita losing and, as the result, vowing to get even. Later she's a girl bandit of the good kind, never killing anyone, although she does steal cattle.

Some attempts are made at comedy in Carmelita's hide-out. It gets so, however, that even Buck's horse can find it with notes, etc.

Picture moves as fast as anything in its class could move. It has a certain amount of entertainment, even for those who usually pass up this kind of stuff. *Waly.*

LIEBESWALZER

("Waltz of Love")
(GERMAN-MADE)
(With Songs)

Erich Pommer-Ufa production and Ufa release. Stars Willy Fritsch and features Lilian Harvey. Direction, Wilhelm Thiele. Story and dialog, Hans Mueller and Robert Liebmann. Music by Werner R. Heymann and played by Paul Godwin's Band and Weintraub Syncopators. Photography, Werner Brandes. Sound, Dr. Erich Leistner. At the Eighth St. Playhouse, N. Y., on grind, beginning May 1. Running time, 90 mins.

Duchess of Lauenburg .....Julia Serda
Princess Eva, her daughter..Lilian Harvey
Court Marshal .....Karl Ludwig Diehl
Archduchess Melany .....Lotte Spira
Archduke Peter Ferdinand,
her son.....Georg Alexander
Fould, Automobile Manufacturer
.....Hans Junkerman
Bobby, his son .....Willy Fritsch
Dr. Lemke .....Vicktor Schwannecke
Dr. Popper .....Karl Ettlinger

When Erich Pommer started on this film he probably thought he was building something for the ever-growing American market. If he did, he failed. The few Americans that will be drawn to it won't understand it, and if they do they won't like it. But Pommer has not made a completely bad picture. "Liebeswalzer" ought to be good b. o. in strictly German neighbs.

Film has the usual German musical formula. Much music and most of it nice—plenty of shouting, much eating, more beer drinking, a pretty heroine, a handsome leading man, a silly story and a considerable number of well cast character parts.

First part of the story is laid in America and Ufa gets a palm on that score. There may be some use of the Dunning process there. Quite a bit of conversation in English, all of it with heavy Teutonic accents which doesn't fit and telegrams arriving in German. That a love song is sung in a speeding automobile by the hero and his sweetheart won't bother the Teutons.

Story has to do with the son of an American motor magnate who runs away from factory duties. He meets an Archduke, whom he immediately calls Archie and who gives him a job as general factotum. Because the runaway says "Okay" (unkay in the film) to the proposition, Archie names him his personal okay and that goes from then on.

Back in Europe with the Archduke who is supposed to marry the beautiful princess he has never met. The princess doesn't want him so he vamps out sending his faithful okay along to handle the job. And the okay falls. The archduke, with less trouble, takes the hotel chambermaid.

Willy Fritsch, who looks a little like Barthelmess, handles the auto manufacturer's son well and Lilian Harvey is exceptionally good as the princess. If she knows any English and her name seems to indicate English or American extraction, she ought to be okay for American films. Other parts handled well.

Photography good and recording satisfactory. No song standout, although all sound well.

STUDENT SEIN

("To Be a Student")
(GERMAN MADE)
(With Songs)

Ines production and Leo Brecher release. Directed by Heinz Paul. Scenario, Josef Buchhorn. Music by Ernst Erich Buder. Features Franz Baumann. Tobis recording. At the Little Carnegia, N. Y., for grind run beginning April 30. Running time, 65 mins.

Gert Simmers .....Franz Baumann
Lisbeth, his sister.....Anita Dorris
Her Father .....Fritz Alberti
Fred Droysen .....Fred Louis Lerch
Aenne Winter .....Edith Schollwer
Her Father .....Ernst Behmer
Her Mother .....Else Reval
The bookkeeper at Simmers..Paul Bienstfeld
The Professor .....Carl Platen
Student Mog .....Hans Hamm

Since the Germans have had quite some success in turning out musical films which mean something at the box office, one laid on the campus of an old German college ought to be extra good. However, it isn't. It falls down in every way, the most serious probably being that the songs don't mean much.

One melody catches on easily and will probably sell on this side, but it doesn't necessarily fit the film. It's "Sag Ya" ("Say Yes") and has a good lilting tune, although also reminiscent of half a dozen American ditties. It may surprise but there is no rousing drinking song and the theme is mediocre.

Background of the film is authentic enough and therefore of considerable interest. It was taken on the ancient campus of Wurzburg University, one of Germany's oldest and most beautiful schools, much pretty scenery, lots of merry students and considerable shouting.

Story is practically nil and is spoiled by an unnecessarily sloppy ending. Has to do with a son of a wealthy man who is the leading student of the small university. He's in love with a poor girl and his sister is in love with a poor student. Comes word that the father's business has failed and he's committed suicide. So he has to leave school to seek his fortune.

Franz Baumann, as the young hero, is effective despite being about 100 pounds too heavy and 10 years too old. He has a fine voice and does most of the singing. Other parts are minor, the only one deserving special rating being Anita Dorris as the sister, and that on looks.

Photography is good but the sound is off, although the suspicion grows that the sound may be the fault of this house. Too many films unreel shoddily here as regards reproduction.

Baumann appears personally with the film here and it needs him in the flesh. For the German patrons the added attraction may stretch this into a three or four weeks run.

Rider of the Plains

Syndicate production and release. Directed by J. P. McCarthy. Story and dialog by Wellyn Totman. Archie Stout, cameraman. Cast features Tom Tyler, Andy Shuford and Lillian Bond. At Loew's New York, one day, April 28, as half double feature. Running time, 60 mins.

This western is built along better than ordinary lines. Not much action, but plenty of interest in the script and Tyler, as the hero, is okay.

The usual rough-and-tumble applesauce is lacking. Instead, the film is along common sense lines. Some of the accustomed horse opera implausibilities are present, but not too many of them.

Tyler, as the bad man, rides into a strange town with his side-kick, a kid. His identity is discovered by the sheriff, who warns that they have an eye on him. An old thieving pal, who has reformed, is the parson of the town.

Tyler's reformation into a law abidin' citizen takes place through the interest in the kid parson, and the girl.

Tyler makes a nice looking hero, has a good voice and reads acceptably.

KID FROM ARIZONA

Cosmos production. State-right release. Directed and written by Robert J. Horner. Scenario by Robert Walker. Jules Cronjager, cameraman. Cast features Jack Perrin, Josephine Hill and Robert Walker. At the Times, N. Y., one day, April 28, as half double feature. Running time, 52 mins.

Western contains nothing unusual to recommend it beyond the smallest houses. Story is just one of those things which are made to sew a few fist fights and horse riding sequences together.

Perrin is the marshal who is sent into the bad lands to clean up a gang of Indians who have been terrorizing the country. Judge's horses are stolen and the horse which was supposed to be in the endurance race is maimed, with Perrin blamed for both. He acquits himself and wins the race after disclosing that the supposed Indians are a pack of white smugglers.

Typically exaggerated yarn of the old silent era, the hero taking on three men at a time and making them all bite the dust.

Josephine Hill, heroine, shouldn't permit any more close-ups than necessary.

The Woman's Angle

"Svengali" (WB).—Made up to scare women and children, John Barrymore revels in a macabre performance. Eventually beguiles feminine patrons with his voice and death scene.

"Tarnished Lady" (Par).—Femme curiosity roused by campaign promise of a new personality in Tallulah Bankhead, and the box office title may provide an audience otherwise unmerited by unsympathetic and snobbish story of a whining woman.

"Too Young to Marry" (WB).—Undistinguished small town domestic farce.

"Subway Express" (Col). Engrossing murder mystery made uncomfortable for women by unecessarily frequent shots of a corpse.

"The Secret Six" (M-G). Wallace Beery as a gangster who provides comedy but no heart-throbs. Exaggerated film that can't decide if it's comedy, drama or satire.

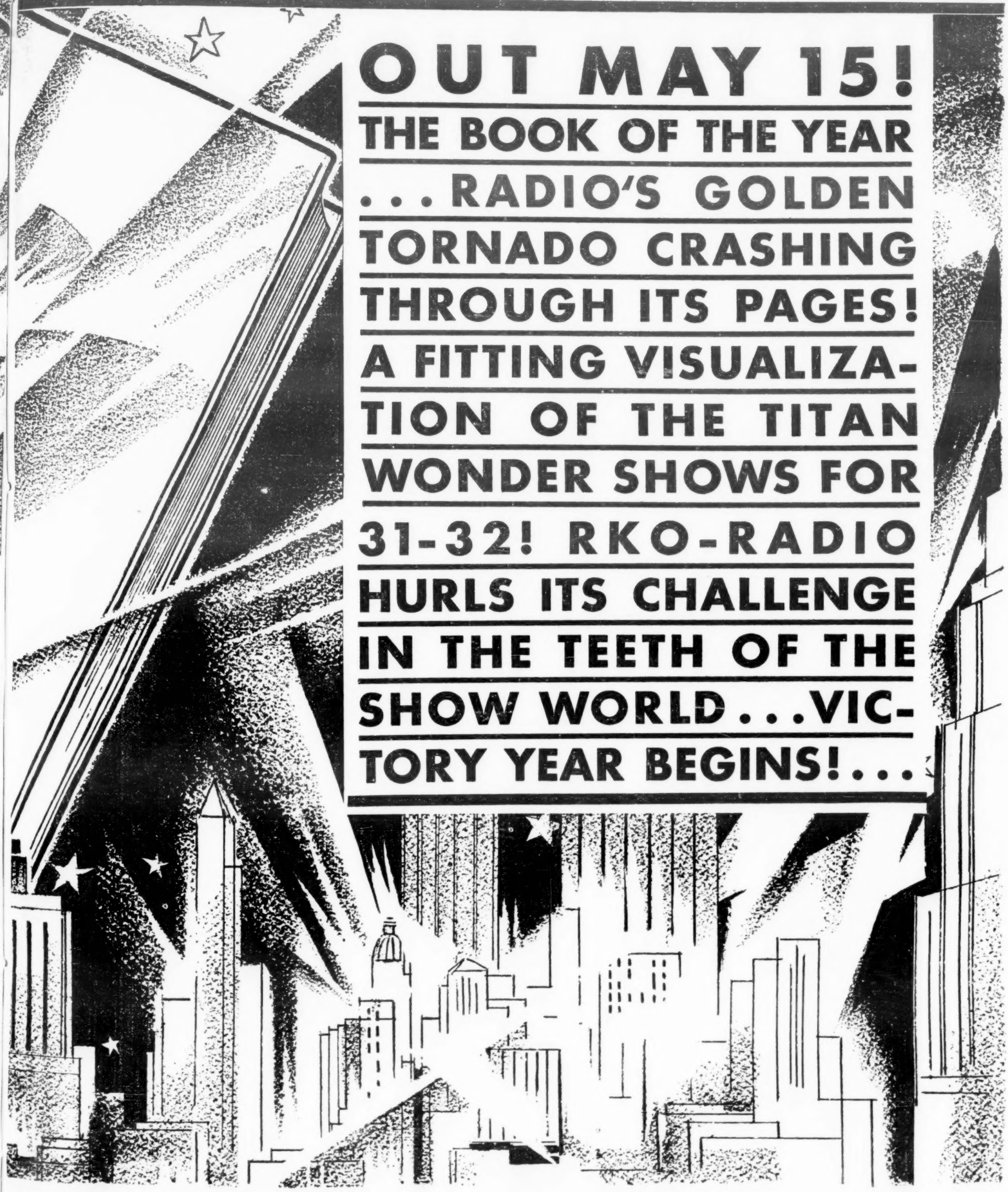
"Three Girls Lost" (Fox). Title's promise unfulfilled by a weak story. Only mildly entertaining.

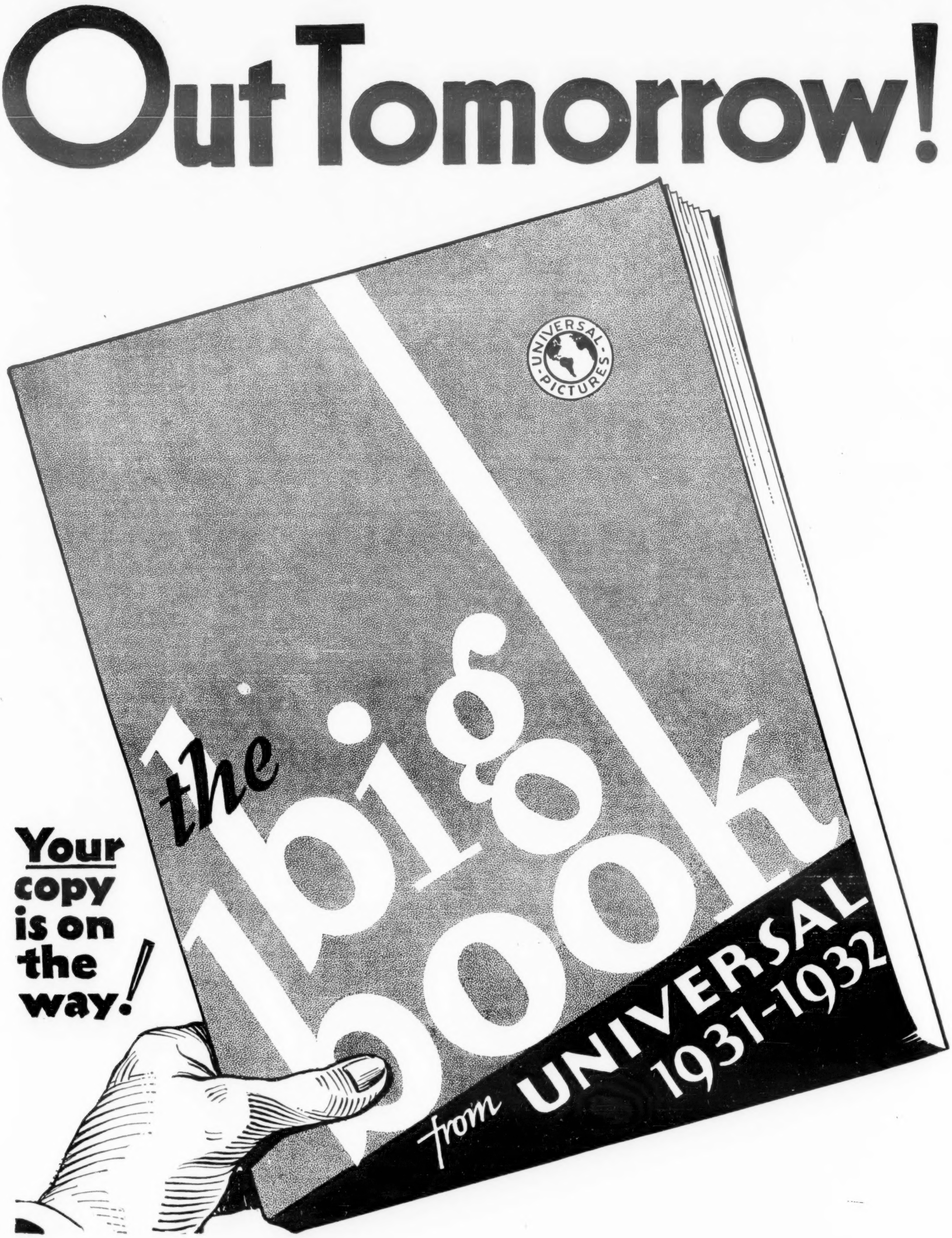
"Ladies' Man" (Par). Swank surroundings, lavish clothes and suave William Powell take femme minds off the unconvincing mother, daughter, lover triangle.

RKO
RADIO
Radio
PICTURES
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

BOOK OF THE YEAR

SHOWS OF THE DECADE




Out Tomorrow!
UNIVERSAL PICTURES
the big book
from UNIVERSAL
1931-1932
Your copy is on the way!

Distribution Speeding to Give Talker Life 18 Mos. All Over World

It is filmdom's most conservative estimate that the average b. o. life of any picture is 18 months. That life begins with the date of release over here and winds up when the last b. o. rental is practically finished abroad. In past years the average life of a film might have extended to as high as 2½ years. That including the domestic market. The two fields are figured separately. It shows that silents had longer b. o. than talkers.

These figures are offered by film statisticians.

This quick absorption of pictures at he b. o. has become accentuated in recent years because of the fast development of the theatre field. A quicker turnover of rentals is current. This has been increasing gradually but presently is racing fast. It is figured that eventually owing to this change in theatre operating methods that provides for bigger and more atmospheric neighbs, the b. o. absorption of a film over here may be reduced to six months. At present it travels its best time in this country within four months.

The basis for writing off production costs today can be figured as 85% domestic and 15% allocated to foreign rentals. In the first three months after release as much as 68% of this domestic figure may be written off. It may reach 90 or 92% in six months and at the end of 12 months leave only ½% left for domestic requirements.

This situation altogether and since the b. o. life is decreasing rapidly is taken to indicate that before long companies all over will have to increase their outputs to keep ahead of the b. o. absorption.

Bellamy in "Laurels"

Hollywood, May 5.

Ralph Bellamy, newcomer, will lead in "Laurels and the Lady" (Par).

It's the next for Ruth Chatterton.

Foremost Film Players' Directory

WILLIAM BOYD
Paramount Pictures

DOROTHY CHRISTY
"Parlor, Bedroom and Bath"

GARY COOPER
Paramount Pictures

CLAUDIA DELL
Radio Pictures

BORIS KARLOFF
"Big Brother"
"Smart Money"
"5 Star Final"

MAE MURRAY
"Bachelor Apartments"
A Radio Picture

2-Day Colo Convention

Denver, May 5.

Rocky Mountain Theatres Owners' Association's annual convention will be at the Brown Palace hotel, here, May 12-13. The time has been cut to two days to give members a day to get a close hand perusal of the new product offered for the coming year.

Some of the subjects to be covered will be "Advertising and Exploitation," "Zoning and Protection," "Theatre Management," "Percentage Checking," "Public Relations."

Harry Huffman, president, will preside. Judge Emmett Thurmon, counsel for the body, will act as secretary.

3 PUBLIX UNITS OPEN AT STANLEY, J. C.

Owing to in person engagements for the Paramount, New York, during the next three weeks, Publix units will be omitted from that house. Instead they will open the metropolitan visit each of the three weeks at the Stanley, Jersey City, Warner house.

First of the individual appearances at the Par on Broadway will be Amos 'n' Andy, starting Friday (8). Buddy Rogers is to be on the Par's stage the next week.

N. H. Senate Approves Late Sunday Opening

Concord, N. H., May 5.

Further evidence toward a growing tendency to kill New England blue laws is shown in the vote of the State Senate last week in approving a bill to legalize Sunday films and baseball. Bill was submitted by Governor Winaut as a substitute for a proposal previously passed by both Senate and House to permit local option on Sunday sports and amusements.

Governor's measure would prohibit horse racing, prize fighting and public dancing on Sunday. Local approval or disapproval also are provided for in the new bill. Voters of each city or town must pass on the proposed law.

Winaut proposes that pictures and vaude shall be permitted after six p. m., as also football, baseball and hockey.

The House is yet to act on the bill but passage is expected.

Of the six New England states Sunday shows now are prohibited in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

For Sentiment

Providence, May 5.

Urged on by sentiment, Mrs. Edith Chase, well known in East Providence, is still running her "Town Hall" silent films despite that the town now has an up-to-date picture house.

Started years ago by her late husband, Ralph Chase, former scribe, the venture developed into quite a business. Until recently she was operating two antiquated film stands, but one is now closed.

Although the gross for one evening's performance last week was only $8, Mrs. Chase says she'll stick it out in spite of talking pictures.

Allied Exhibs Favor Fri.-Sat.-Sun. Policy; No Summer Shutdown

Chicago, May 5.

It begins to appear that the Allied organization here will not be able to get its members to close for the months of June, July and August as planned. A few of the leaders may close and others may be forced to, but the majority of neighborhood theatres appear determined to make the best of it and keep the lights burning.

Competition is still the big goblin with the exhibs, each theatre being afraid that to close would mean that some nearby house would steal all the trade and keep it.

Continuous policies will no doubt be called off for the hot months, but periodical shows may be the rule. Weekend performances appear the favored plan, which means Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, but closed the rest of the week. By this plan the theatres hope to skim the cream of the possible business, meanwhile heavily cutting of expenses.

Besides the weekend showings, the theatres are even now further reducing playing time by eliminating matinees. These small around-the-corner spots all figure alike—that their houses are too hot in the summer afternoons to get anybody to come to sit through two features. The idea is to in some way keep open during the hot months.

Okla. Indie Wins

Dallas, May 5.

Charging that the present standard exhibitors' contract is a violation of the Sherman law, a Pawhuska, Okla., judge refused to enforce a contract for Par.

Case involved E. V. Weaver, indie owner of the Osage, Shilder, Okla., from whom Par tried to collect $1,081 for 29 flickers he refused to play out of a contract calling for 69 picts.

Hays Men Claim Allied's 6,000 Theatres a Myth, Say 1,000; See Quick Ad Newsreel Flop

Declaring Allied's claim to a membership of 6,000 theatres is out of proportion and that their own survey, recently completed, shows but a sixth of that figure, producer spokesmen are calling the indie organization's so called bluff to become a distributor. MPPA men think,however, that if the advertising newsreel does get underway it will accomplish the end of all sponsored reels in the film industry since it is figured to open a gateway to hordes of outsiders who would capitalize on the move to flood the independent screens in the U. S. with all kinds of billboard matter.

The Allied reel threatens to take the screen advertising fight out of the hands of the newspaper publishers and the public and make it the center of a campaign within the industry itself.

According to the terms dictated in Allied's five year newsreel contract, any exhibitor who signs the agreement automatically becomes a member of this organization.

An Allied membership survey by Hays sources shows that Allied's 1,000 houses average around 400 seats per theatre, that they are spread over 31 states and with big representation only in one key city, the 2,000-seat Alladin operated by Harry Hoffman in Detroit. These figures are not disputed by Allied, even Abram Myers refusing on several occasions to give any box-office count.

A Bit Complicated

The newsreel arrangement per the indies is along somewhat complicated lines. Instead of Allied or Kinograms, the business title on the printed formula is that of the Oscar Hanson Corp. Elsewhere, however, the central office is given at the address of Allied-Myers headquarters in Washington. Kinograms is held as producer of the reel with a guarantee and cut in the proceeds.

No national advertiser, up to last week, had signed for space in the reel. It is this point upon which industry opponents of this advertising move figure the reel will flop before it is born. No date has been set for the first release, understood to be tentatively arranged for August or early September.

Contract Clauses

With no money at stake the contract, it is pointed out by legal minds, isn't worth the paper it is written on. The contract, itself, admits this reciting in a clause under "Protection and Run":

"Any termination by either party shall be without prejudice to any other right or remedy which the party so terminating may have by any reason of any breach by the other party of this or any other existing agreement between the parties."

The seating figures, of primary importance to any advertiser, are to be gathered along these lines (quoting contract):

"It is the essence of this agreement and the exhibitor agrees that he will furnish within one day after each showing on forms supplied by the distributor, and will mail a postpaid enevelop, addressed to Allied States Motion Picture Exhibitors at the Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C., a true certification of the number of persons before whom each of said reels has been exhibited in said theatre, whether or not such persons shall have paid admissions. This information shall not be disclosed so that the returns of any given theatre may be identified by any producer or distributor of motion pictures."

Foremost Film Writers and Dialogicians

FRANCIS EDWARDS FARAGOH
"Iron Man"
"Little Caeser"

Present Assignment:
"QUEER PEOPLE"
HOWARD J. GREEN
Represented by
ARTHUR M. LANDAU

JOSEPH JACKSON
WRITER
Under Contract to
Warner Bros.

Six Top Money
Directors for 1930
and
William Slavens Grover
McNUTT-JONES
Wrote for FOUR of Them

SARAH Y. MASON
SCREEN DRAMATIST
M-G-M
"THE MAN IN POSSESSION"

RALPH SPENCE
R-K-O

EVE UNSELL
Screen Play
"Up Pops the Devil"
A Paramount Picture

WALDEMAR YOUNG
FIRST NATIONAL

Block Booking Habit Dwindles; 3-Yr. Figures Show No Distrib Selling 100%

Block booking is decidedly on the wane. Not only the Government ruling but the economic situation as well is responsible. Competition linked with depression, plus that the bulk of profit is vested in individual bookings, features the change of the industry's selling formula.

Deals among circuits, however, are scheduled to continue on the same basis.

Behind the loss in favor of block booking are figures over a period of three years. These show that not a single distributor sold 100% of its product to any one account. In most instances only half of the production schedule was booked by the theatre man with two of the smaller companies listed as selling less than 20% of their product at one time.

Certain distributors, however, are protecting their general product in a sales method somewhat similar to the old block. They are preparing to intersperse their sure winners with pictures of less certain qualification. Psychology here is that one good picture will hold up others if sold in small groups instead of in bulk.

Exhib leaders laugh at the declarations of producer spokesmen that block-booking is out. To them the no-block buy will be realized only by the exhibitor who doesn't figure on competition.

The distributor every time, they say, will first interchange with the

(Continued on page 56)

Publix's 17th—Detroit

Detroit, May 5.

Publix is adding another neighborhood theatre on the east side, to make a total of 10 outlying houses and seven first runs here. Two of the downtown spots are dark.

Theatre being added is one year old, but was never equipped for sound. Capacity is 2,400. Sisman is the owner and builder.

10 Years for B. O. Grab

Kansas City, May 5.

George Stock, 21, claiming to be a baseball player from Fargo, N. D., was sentenced to 10 years for robbing the Isis theatre.

Stock held up manager Herbert Goldberg and secured $183. He was caught by a policeman as he fled from the theatre. He pleaded guilty.

Ochs' Non-Union Fuss Now Getting Protection From the Bronx Police

Aggressive action by union labor officials against the Lee Ochs uptown non-union houses is causing plenty of excitement. There's at least one instance of police interference.

Ochs' theatres went non-union with his acquisition of a number of Fox houses, whereupon the union began picketing and posting billboard sheets, distributing pencils, blotters and other knick-knacks calling attention to the theatres' status.

That failing, bus-loads of Negroes were paid to enter the Uptown and Gem theatres, Ochs' two class houses. Ochs immediately raised his admission price to $1 for blacks, with admission for whites remaining at 35c. Later, at the Uptown theatre, the Negroes were refused admission altogether.

At the Gem theatre protests by the Negroes over the $1 admission price led to a free-for-all, with four placed under arrest.

Non-union labor still is in effect and Ochs has secured police protection.

HARDIE ALBRIGHT

Believe it or not, 'twas an Albright day in Pittsburgh when Hardie was born. From his mother's lap, we lap dissolve to measles... mumps... soot... kindergarten... more soot.

Clean from Pittsburgh in due time, Hardie groped his way through the public schools and emerged eventually from Carnegie Tech with a diploma in one hand and an itch to be an artist in the other. He framed the diploma. A year's study in Chicago cured the itch.

He joined a Pittsburgh repertoire company playing "Twelfth Night," "Saturday Night," any old night. Then came roles in "The Cradle Song," "Young Sinners," "Gang War," and "A Hundred Years Old"— practically from the cradle to the grave. His performance in "The Greeks Had A Word For It" won him a Fox contract. His first appearance in Fox pictures "Young Sinners" is his first time on any screen.

He's headed for plenty pictures on next year's schedule, rightly so.

Girl fans have marked him for their own. His talent is hardy and his future is all bright.

HUSH MONEY
YOUNG SINNERS

TWENTY FOURTH OF A SERIES OF FOX SCREEN PERSONALITIES

FOX

So Here's 'Daddy Long Legs,' With Janet as Star

By FLORABEL MUIR.

Hollywood, Cal., May 4.—Twenty years ago or thereabouts, Ruth Chatterton first lent her presence to the theatre appearing as a child star with Henry Miller in a play called "Daddy Long Legs." Ruth brought laughter and tears to a generation now old enough to be sending its offspring to high school and college.

By way of proving that the best things never die, Winfield R. Sheehan has recreated this moving drama and translated it into a talking film which is the nearest thing to "Seventh Heaven" that I have had the privilege of viewing.

Janet Star in Film.

An echo that recurs in this column about twice a year is that "Fox will break the Roxy record with this one." Last time I made this prediction it came true—and Janet Gaynor in "The Man Who Came Back" with Charlie Farrell was the picture. "Long Legs" is so much better than this one that maybe it's safe to prophesy again.

I caught a studio preview of it. Janet Gaynor is the star, in the part Chatterton played years ago. Warner Baxter is opposite her, and though we may like Farrell, no one will place him in the same

Janet Gaynor

bracket with Baxter as an actor. It's a new deal for Janet; a new leading man, a new director, Al Santell, one of the top layer of megaphoners; and a touching, tender little story of the sort Janet does best.

Made to Order.

"Long Legs" was certainly made to order for the talents of the wistful little girl who makes all the world laugh and cry with her. Unless I've forgotten my corn belt, my great west, and the American small town generally—and I haven't—this one should have exhibitors from everywhere crying for it.

"Nearest thing to SEVENTH HEAVEN that I have had the privilege of viewing."

— N.Y. Daily News

FOX FILM CORP.

BOX OFFICE

PARAMOUNT

THE BUY WORD FOR 1931-2!

Hays' Anti-Knock Remedy

(Continued from page 3)

dustry's industrial subject has been shown.

Women and Children First

The first American fans to be made picture-wise are the women and children. In national women's clubs, the boy and girl scout organizations, the Hays headquarters estimates it will reach :n appreciative and sympathetic audience of an aggregate 40,000,000.

The anti-knocking machine has already turned out its first feature. This is titled "Meet the World," a production specially compiled by the Hays organization. It runs 90 minutes and has just started its tour of the industry's message. Philadelphia and Boston are the first two cities for its showing.

Propaganda

"Meet the World" shows the progress of American pictures. It comes up from the earliest feature to the most modern, with same treatment for the newsreels. Interspersed is the propaganda in intermittent spaces of dialog discussion. What it doesn't answer one of the Hays minute men will after the show.

The second feature is scheduled to deal with the technical and moral side of filmdom. How a picture follows the Hays Code of Ethics from the time it is submitted until it passes through the cutting room into the theatre.

The third Hays special will deal with the representatives whose organizations include the monster initial audience filmdom is shaping for its future salesmen. The representatives will be shown at their work in Hollywood reviewing pictures for their own cohorts. Among them will be the reviewer for the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the largest of all organizations of women in the U. S. and one having subsidiaries in practically every sizeable town in the country. Then will follow the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the American Association of University Women and the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.

This picture will show representatives of nearly every accountable female organization with the exception of the Women's Temperance Union. Latter is admitted as heavy in dynamite against pictures as alcohol and tobacco, but especially pictures, because the members claim never to go to picture shows and therefore are in a better position to judge them.

Dr. Simon's Work

The anti-knocking machine also has one of New York's leading criminologists at work. Dr. Carlton Simon tackled one of the toughest jobs that the campaign has to face: Meeting a judge who has not only attacked the industry on the bench, but who has laid careless crimes committed by three lads before him to motion pictures.

Dr. Simon went to Atlantic City recently and in his report to the Hays organization revealed that not only had the parents of the children exonerated filmdom but that the judge in a signed letter stated:

"The Code adopted by the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America and the Association of Motion Picture Producers that you were good enough to show me, is a splendid working code to govern the production of pictures, and I feel certain that if the code is adhered to no picture could be produced thereunder that would be dangerous to public welfare."

In its crusade for pictures the industry is warning organizations not to hire lecturers who claim an intimate knowledge of filmdom until they first have gained a knowledge of the speaker's real antecedents. At the same time these groups are being advised that in many localities a bonafide representative of the industry—one of the minute men—will talk without charge.

Proof of the workability of this department in the campaign is witnessed in the fact that during the past two weeks one Hays spokesman has addressed 12 gatherings in as many towns in and around New York City.

The Phoneys

Operating in several of the larger cities right now are pseudo lecturers who have had no contact with actual filmdom other than conjecture and their own imagination, according to the charges. One of these men working the Chicago territory realizes $100 for every talk he makes. Another in Washington, D. C., and another in a small Pennsylvania town get from $50 up for their appearances, it is further asserted.

Another phase which the Hays organization intends to inculcate into the public is that several associations with big and official sounding titles are but the livelihood of three and four people. These meet among themselves, pass resolutions and then broadcast throughout the country thousands of mimeographed and printed reports, indicating some federal stand or opinion.

In the majority of attacks that are and have been made upon it, the industry is ready with a lowdown. One lawyer, according to the crusaders, wanted a like position in the Hays organization. He didn't get it and his writings in certain publications have been consistently adverse to the industry since then.

A woman who is described as the power behind one of the most active anti-picture minds in Washington, D. C., is credited with one time having been on the payroll of a large mid-western theatre circuit.

Another woman, also a factor in attacks on pictures, five years ago was on the Hays payroll. She was called off some lobby work in a New England city and discharged, having failed to qualify, according to the industry's record.

The relative of a powerful government official, who has been extremely forceful in his efforts to legislate nationally against pictures, was an exhibitor who flopped at his box office in a mid-western state.

The industry's anti-knocking machine has a reason for every move it is making.

New K. C. Film Building

Kansas City, May 5.

A new building is being completed on film row for offices of United Artists, Midwest Film Exchange, Columbia Pictures, and National Theatre Supply.

Building is at Eighteenth and Central.

Whitney's Playhouse

J. R. Whitney has the 5th Avenue Playhouse, New York, for foreign films. Opened Saturday (2) with the original German version of "Blue Angel" (Ufa).

The 5th Avenue had been run by S. Kaplan, owner, for two months.

FORMER OWNER SUED

Council Bluffs, Ia., May 5.

C. C. Johnson, who a year ago sold his Iowa and Strand theatres to the Finkelstein corporation, is defendant in federal court actions charging infringement of copyrights by exhibiting films of Columbia Pictures, Metro and Radio without license or consent of the plaintiffs.

Six specific violations are cited.

RKO managerial appointments, effective this week, are Louis P. DeWolfe, Orpheum, New Orleans; Rudolph Kuehn, Park Lane, New York; Al Shear, 58th Street, New York.

Exhib's Defense of No Protection from U. A. Beats Rental Claim

Syracuse, N. Y., May 5.

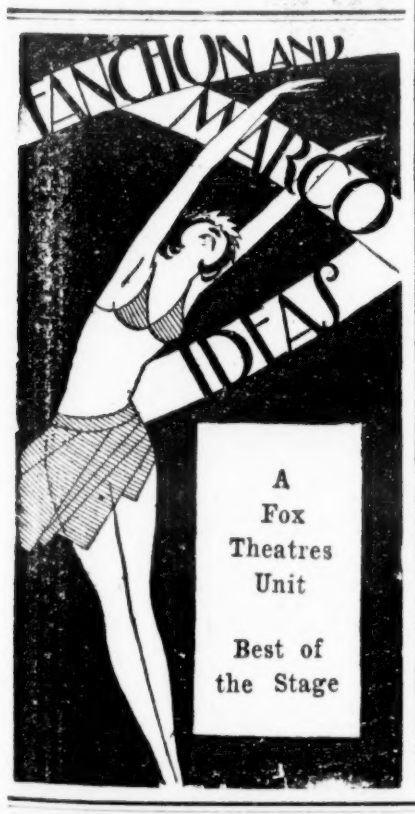
Jacob Karp pleaded no protection by United Artists in his neighborhood for the pictures U. A. sued him for $1,800 rental.

Karp was given the decision.

Karp is a local independent exhibitor. He alleged the distributor had agreed to withhold its pictures he played from the same locality for a certain time. This, he alleged, U. A. had failed to do.

United Artists contradicted Karp's testimony as to the facts, but Karp was on his home lot.

Mort Harris, who went to Salt Lake City to do stage shows for the Publix Victory, is back in Hollywood.



FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE EAST!!

VENUS HAINES SISTERS SYLVIA

"HEAVENLY HARMONY TWINS"

FEATURED IN

HARRY GOURFAIN'S "PARADISE ISLE"

PARAMOUNT, New York

WEEK, MAY 7

VERSATILITY PLUS!!!
SINGERS, DANCERS, MUSICIANS
PLAYING UKELELE—BANJO—STEEL GUITAR

Direction: WM. MORRIS AGENCY

A RECORD

Playing 5 Years for Publix-B & K in Chicago

MARK FISHER

Will Complete Present Contract Labor Day, 1931

WATCH—WATCH—WATCH

"Play or Pay" Edict on Shorts May Force Duo Features Out; Exhibs' Stand Is Antagonistic

Chicago, Ma. 5.

With the double feature idea now in complete control of this city and much of the nearby territory, the film exchanges are beginning to feel the pressur the shorts being left on the shelf. They are threatening court action, as usual, with several distributors having already placed their cases in the hands of local attorneys.

Exchanges say they're going to make the exhibs live up to eir contracts; that whether the exhibs can find time for shorts or not is the worry of the exhibs.

In this forcing of the shorts issue many exhibs and distributors see the final solution of the double feature problem. If tl exchanges can get court orders making the exhibs pay for the shorts, those operators will soon be using short subjects again even if it necessitates eliminating the two feature program idea. No neighborhood yet has willingly paid for pictures without making use of them.

Exhibitors admit failing to pick up prints, but they complain the

(Continued on page 56)

Inside Stuff—Pictures

Important official with Howard Hughes denies Hollywood reports that Hughes was attempting to gain control of United Artists through buying up stock in Art Cinema Corp., the holding company. States the producer is satisfied just to be one of the studio's independent producers.

Last year Hughes was blocked in his attempt to gain control of Art Cinema because Paramount had a purchase warrant not yet exercised that would enable Par to buy up all new stock issues. Besides which Joe Schenck wouldn't sell. Only 50% of the Art Cinema stock has been issued to date, so if Hughes bought every share of outstanding stock he would still only control 50%. This purchase warrant was given Paramount when Adolph Zukor loaned Art Cinema $3,000,000 last year. The bonds do not fall due until 1960.

Hughes has only a small percentage of the stock in Art Cinema, most of it being owned by Joseph M. Schenck. Art Cinema has the privilege of buying back the bonds before 1960 at $105, but Hughes or anyone else is not likely to do so at this time.

Hughes is reported to be losing some of his big ideas, including that of a big theatre circuit. He is not backing the Hughes-Franklin theatre circuit to the extent expected but moving at a slower pace and watching developments in the circuit before throwing in too much money. Hughes is content just to produce pictures on his present scale and not become entangled in the headaches of running too many big projects.

Art Cinema controls and finances U. A. which owns the releasing contracts. United Artists Studio Corp. owns the studio, its stock controlled 100% by Art Cinema.

Of the many things happening in the industry's metamorphosis of the past year, that of treating a film salesman as a bond salesman is the most original. It was brought about by another change in filmdom's evolution: A financier replacing a showman.

The difference between Harley Clarke's handling of the Fox annual convention and William Fox's are so numerous that they were the topic of conversation after the get-together closed last week in Fox Hall.

Oldtimers in the Fox organization who have attended so many conventions they know the speech formula by heart got something out of the beaten path. Instead of listening to a three-hour sermon in which the whip was cracked, minute criticism was made, the merits of each picture on the schedule were gone into, and the defects of indies were re-enumerated. Fox salesmen got a half hour talk in highly gentlemanly fashion from the president of the company.

Harley Clarke didn't go into the sales and production angles. He let Winnie Sheehan and Jimmie Grainger do that. He treated the boys, as a couple of them said afterwards, with gloves.

The oldtimer who delighted in selling Fox mellers observed, however:

(Continued on page 57)

SICK *Houses*

When a four-star picture fails to bring them in, the manager knows something is wrong. He can then blame it all on the business depression, **or** he can do something about it.

Many thoughtful managers have reasoned that in **troublous times** men and women stand most in need of gay entertainment—bright lights, soft carpets, **living music**—cheery and glamorous atmosphere, a place to forget cares for the moment.

The all-sound house does not fill the bill. However worthy its screen show may be, such a theatre remains a dark and cheerless spot—likely to become a sick house.

The salutary effect of **living music** is urgently indicated. Not a quack remedy, but the tried and true specific, indispensable in first-class theatres since the movies emerged from the nickelodeon era.

The AMERICAN FEDERATION of MUSICIANS

(Comprising 140,000 professional musicians in the United States and Canada)

JOSEPH N. WEBER, *President*
1440 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Special Publicity

in

VARIETY

Under a Special Plan

"Variety's" Special Publicity Plan has been functioning for some years. It has been employed by many of the newly-made stars in Pictures and Vaudeville, while the standard players and attractions have long since discovered its value in the advancement of stage position and salary.

The campaign is designed to keep a professional name continuously before the show business, all over the world, every week for 52 weeks in a year.

This publicity may be used in displayed type or pictorially, but does not include reading matter, other than a limited caption under cuts.

"Variety's" Publicity Plan is made sufficiently flexible in cost to meet almost any condition.

A copy of the plan with other information as may be desired can be obtained at any "Variety" office.

NEW YORK
154 West 46th St.

CHICAGO
Woods Theatre Bldg.

LONDON
8 St. Martins Pl., Trafalgar Sq.

HOLLYWOOD
Taft Building

Season 1931-1932

Greater Than Ever!

Exhibitors everywhere admit COLUMBIA consistently DELIVERS GREAT BOX OFFICE PICTURES!

•

Columbia enters upon a new season with great authors, plays, books, directors and stars that will establish a record even greater and more startling than the achievements of the past!

•

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Columbia

"IF THE ENGLISH MOVIE-MAKERS DECIDE TO SEND OVER ANYMORE PICTURES LIKE "The 'W' PLAN" THE HOLLYWOOD MANUFACTURERS OF TALKIES MAY WELL LOOK TO THEIR LAURELS"

Says AL SHERMAN
'THE MORNING TELEGRAPH'

"The 'W' PLAN"

"'The "W" Plan' hails from the Elstree Studio in London, and represents the best production from that studio to be shown so far in this country."
"NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM"

"A fine piece of entertainment. Direction and acting are good."
"MOTION PICTURE DAILY"

"'The "W" Plan' is well recorded, much better photographed than the average flicker from England, and intelligently acted by a cast of British players who seem to know the business. And you have a 2½ star picture. This one proves that they can do mighty well at the Elstree Studios of England if they try hard enough."
"DAILY NEWS"

"From the British studios at Elstree there comes an absorbing and well-told tale of espionage in the British intelligence service. It's good, exciting adventure, plausibly worked out and directed with a careful eye to the relevancies of the plot. The romantic story is kept in a properly subordinate place. Brian Aherne gives an excellent performance."
"NEW YORK EVENING POST"

"'The "W" Plan' easily the best production that has so far come out of the British cinema studio in Elstree. Better acted, directed and photographed than any of the Elstree products recently displayed at the Cohan theatre, it's a good melodrama about that ever-intriguing subject, war spies."
"NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL"

"An exciting and splendidly staged English espionage melodrama—the most satisfactory production sent over here from the Elstree Studios."
"NEW YORK TIMES"

"Good British-made spy thriller. The film holds attention and deserves a place about equal to the Hollywood program output."
"NEW YORK AMERICAN"

A BRITISH INTERNATIONAL PICTURE
DISTRIBUTED IN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY
RADIO PICTURE CORPORATION
1560 - BROADWAY - NEW YORK -
BIP

Picture Possibilities

"Devil in the Mind"—Unfavorable

"DEVIL IN THE MIND" (Drama, Leo Bulgakov Associates, Fulton). Morbid Russian drama of insanity by Andreyev. Little chance on stage or screen. *Ibee.*

"Betty Be Careful"—Unfavorable

"BETTY BE CAREFUL" (Farce comedy, Gerald Bacon, Liberty). Lightweight affair that would supply little to the scenarioist. *Ibee.*

"Her Supporting Cast"—Unfavorable

"HER SUPPORTING CAST" (Farce Comedy, Philip Gerton, Biltmore). Unlikely for pictures due to necessary toning down that would leave little left. *Char.*

Mixed Languages on Naborhood Programs Helps Biz in Chicago

Chicago, May 5.

With foreign flickers hitting high in this district, and double features now accepted by every neighborhood theatre, the smarter operators are finding it profitable to combine the two ideas.

Instead of having two pictures in English, the nabes are finding increased business in offering one foreign and one English talker. Patronage is same foreign quarters was thusly almost doubled. The natives seem to find the foreign films a novelty while the European talkers are bringing in the former aliens. In some theatres this idea is becoming a standard policy.

Max Fisher, orchestra leader, filed petition of bankruptcy, listing assets at $300 and liabilities in excess of $26,000.

VICTOR CAESAR
HERAS and WALLACE
Featured in F. & M.'s
"ICY HOT" IDEA
May 8-14
PALACE, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

BROADUS ERLE
JUVENILE VIOLINIST
This Week, B. & K. Tivoli
CHICAGO, ILL.
Dir.: SAM ROBERTS

MARVE JENSEN
Presenting His
"ORIGINAL RAIL DANCE"
This Wk., Golden Gate, San Francisco
Next Wk., Orpheum, Oakland

NILES MARSH
Featured
FANCHON & MARCO
"TOPICAL TUNES IDEA"

HARRIS TWINS
HEADLINING
Fanchon & Marco Unit
"SOCIETY CIRCUS"

Fox's Summer Scale

De luxe rates are being cut by Fox theatres in the east.

Detroit already has a 25-cent rate until five p. m., and new changes are figured for the Fox Brooklyn which will soon inaugurate a different admission schedule for the summer.

Under the plan Brooklyn theatres will run for 25 cents until two p. m., 35 cents from two to six p. m., and 50 cents at night. Children at all times will be 15 cents.

Larkin Okaying W. C. Ads

Hollywood, May 5.

Mark Larkin, Hays' local publicist, now has the job of okaying all theatre advertisements on the west coast in compliance with the recently set down stringent code.

Frank Wilsatch handles the same job in the east.

Park Lane for RKO

RKO has bought from the receivers of the Bank of the United States in New York the Park Lane theatre at 81st street and 2d avenue.

It has had several owners. RKO operated the house for a short while some time ago.

Plays straight pictures.

FOX REALTY REORG

Louis Cohen, realty expert for Fox, is reorganizing the real estate department of Fox Theatres while in New York.

Clarence Loewe will take charge of real estate activities in the east under Cohen. The latter will stay here about a month before returning to the Coast.

NEWARK'S ITALIAN HOUSE

Newark, N. J., May 5.

Alfred C. Cerrigone is opening the Lewis theatre in the Italian district, to show Italian dialog pictures made in Hollywood.

Opens with "Big Trail" (Fox). Vaudeville acts, both English and Italian, will be added.

DECISION FOR U

Oklahoma City, May 5.

District court at Okmulgee, Okla., rendered a decision in favor of Universal enforcing performance of an exhibition contract with Haniotis Brothers, operating the Yale theatre there.

Suit was based upon alleged breach of U's complete service contract, and judgment for $750 and cost. Case was appealed to the Supreme Court.

Even Screens—

Hollywood, May 5.

Hughes-Franklin is installing Orthokrome screens. Western Electric, in the majority of its houses. But not liking the name, has retitled them Phonochromatic screens.

ALL SKOURAS DEALS SKIP THE SUMMER

Theatre deals made and on the fire with Spyros Skouras for Publix are dated to go into action Aug. 1, next. On that date Skouras will assume the operation of the houses.

In setting the date for operation and tenancy as Aug. 1, Spyros is letting himself out for extra work over the summer, if that's the real purpose. Some people claim the show business isn't so good in the summer time.

European Travel Off

(Continued from page 1)

tion of Paris is working against it in high at present, not onl on the expense side but through women believing those little French fancies such as gloves, stockings and handbags have had the gaff put on them by the French.

A large percentage of Gold Star American Mothers offered free return trip transportation to France by the Government for this spring and summer are said to have rejected the offer, feeling they couldn't afford the other expenses of a Parisian visit.

Better Gowns Here

New York women are saying that just now more fashionable and cheaper gowns may be purchased in New York than in Paris. With that objective no longer in sight, even women who have been annual Paris callers state there is nothing left over there but expense, and in these times they will save the family overhead to that extent.

That European shopkeepers are stool pigeons for customs officers is another fast growing belief among Americans. Various seizures of jewels and gowns, in several instances unfounded, have been blamed by tourists upon the shops where the purchases were made abroad. That the customs of any country offers as a rule 25% of the fine or amounts recovered in smuggling seizures to the informer is another mark held against foreign shops.

Poor Quality

In New York the women who have been abroad say that the French lingerie, gloves and bag have greatly deteriorated in quality; that the gloves and stockings particularly do not wear well any more, if of French make, whereas at one time they were considered the chociest purchases by American women. French hand bags, the woman here claims, are badly and cheaply made, sold mostly in the past on their glitter and make-in-France reputations.

While the first class passengers bound for Europe have greatly demininshed the third class or 'teachers' list has increased with that increase expected to continue during the summer. The third class is intrigued by the low rate for that classification, but they are notoriously known as non-spenders, either at home or abroad.

Another Come-On

Paris, May 5.

Attempting to draw all possible tourist trade, the " tax de sejour" (residence tax) has been suppressed in Paris. This consisted in an addition of from one to 5% on all hotel bills according to the price of the room.

The loss to the State is estimated at $560,000 yearly. It will be made good, half by the city of Paris, and half by the hotel mens' association. The latter hope this measure will materially help their business.

Buffalo Houses Demanding 25% Cut By Labor Unions Over Summertime

Buffalo, May 5.

Indications of another manager-union controversy are growing here. Shea-Publix and Lafayette are reported to have independently approached the union with a proposal 25% cut over the summer, with an unconditional turndown. Musicians reported to have countered with a proposal to Shea that orchestras in the Shea houses be cut in number of men employed. It is reported now that all pit orchestra men are receiving regular union scale with additions cut entirely.

On receipt of the union's refusal to cut the Lafayette handed operators and hands their two weeks' notice. House will continue from week to week until the hot spell. Shea's also reported to have given notice on the Century. Hip is probably due for closing due to redecoration-first time in 10 years. Neighborhoods reported squawking with requests to unions for cuts in order to keep open during the summer.

Contracts of union with legit houses expire Sept. 1, at which time the circuits will be further heard from.

10c for 40 Mins.

Cincinnati, May 5.

Star, 290-seater on Fountain Square, cut to a dime and running 40-minute program of shorts and newsreels. Bijou, same-size house nearby, keeps its 15-cent gate for showing of old features.

Both operated by Ike Libson.

Atlanta Par Closing

Atlanta, May 5.

Replacement or transfer of Willard Patterson, district manager, is reported here. The Paramount, 11 year old local house, is also understood to be closing.

At the Publix, New York office, it is said that Patterson remains as district manager for Atlanta with no other plans in mind.

House will close down for the summer to permit repairs and renovations,with no date set.

Equipped throughout with comfortable, acoustically correct American Seating Company Chairs

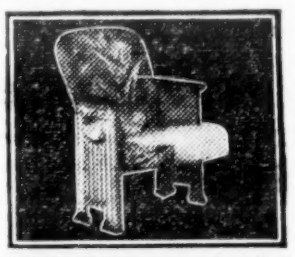
So your *Patrons* may enjoy the play or movie *infinitely* more . . . RESEAT!

"Came the talkies" . . . sound reproduction to synchronize with photography. Theatres dressed up . . . another era dawned. Beauty, harmony, comfort and acoustical perfection. Sound without reverberation, without echo. That is what the public asked of theatres.

So, American Seating Company saw a modern problem. They undertook acoustical research. They found that chairs of certain types have greatest sound absorption. That seats could aid the ear—as well as make for comfort and beauty.

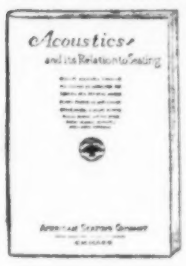
And soon the motion picture industry found that chairs meant more than physical comfort—more than beauty to harmonize with the design and decorative charm of interiors. That to attract patrons—to keep them coming to the theatre, new sound equipment was not enough. New chairs were needed . . . chairs whose acoustical properties brought to their audiences the speaking or singing voice—clearly and undistorted.

To many, reseating—the replacing of old chairs with new—corrected sound distortions, and brought the bigger box office receipts that new sound equipment failed to bring.



A chair of this type was installed in the famous Chicago Civic Opera House. Full upholstered back, spring edge seat and Moderne Standards. A triumph in building into theatre chairs maximum absorption values. Only one of the many American Seating Company types and styles of theatre seating.

Free...This Booklet—"Acoustics and its Relation to Seating"



Our booklet, "Acoustics and its Relation to Seating" will show you how correct seating has a direct bearing on the number of people that patronize your theatre regularly. Our Reseating Engineering Service is at your disposal, without obligation. The facts are available. Just address Department V1.

American Seating Company

Makers of Fine Seating for Churches, Schools and Theatres

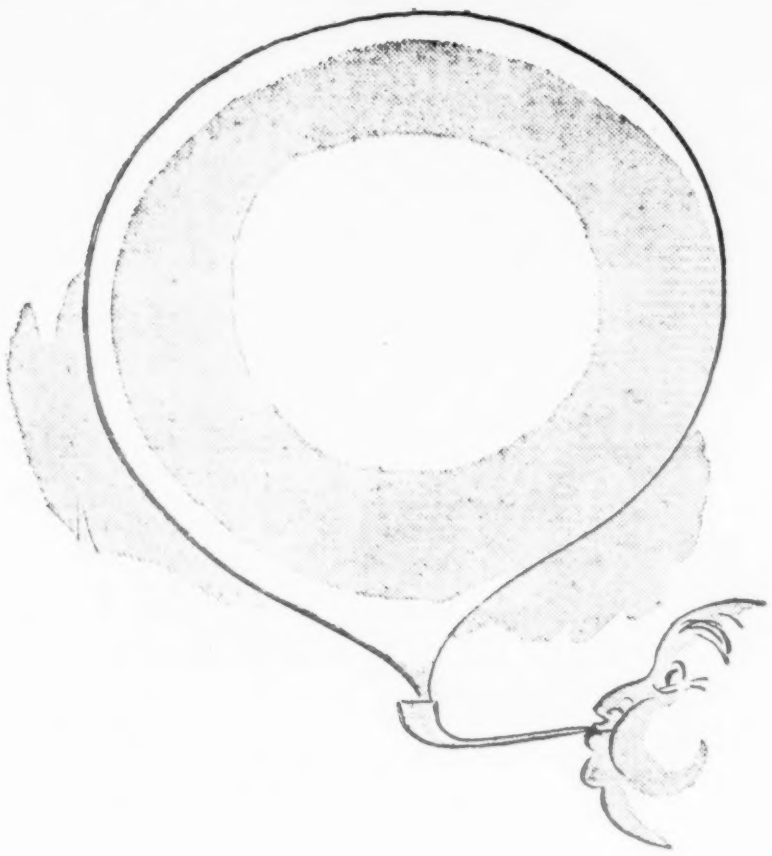
General Offices: 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

Branch Offices in All Principal Cities

BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER
GRAUMAN, HESS and VALLE
Dances with Trimmings—Featuring "The Big Fight"—Playing for Publix-B Unit
This Week, Tivoli, Chicago—Week May 8, Fisher, Detroit
Direction, WM. MORRIS OFFICE

103D CONSECUTIVE WEEK
JOSEPH GRIFFIN
IRISH-AMERICAN TENOR
Direction MAX TURNER, WILLIAM MORRIS OFFICE
Publix-Balaban & Katz Theatres, Chicago, Ill.

A. and J. JANSLEY
THE FIVE JANSLEYS
!! Outstanding Hit of Fanchon & Marco's Prologue to "Dirigible" !!
GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE
HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.
Opening This Week with F. & M. "THREE BIG FIGURES" Idea
Booked by DAVE SOLTI



HE'S MAKIN' 'EM AWFUL BIG

But the Bubble is Bound to Burst

ARE YOU EASILY KIDDED?

We contend that the theatre man is a hard headed business man who

doesn't want back-slapping—

but asks only for a fair count and an idea of what's in the bag!

We're for the theatre man who's cagey about buying blue sky!
He's suspicious about bubbles that expand because he's found by past experience that they only have air in them at the end.

THIS IS THE SILLY SEASON

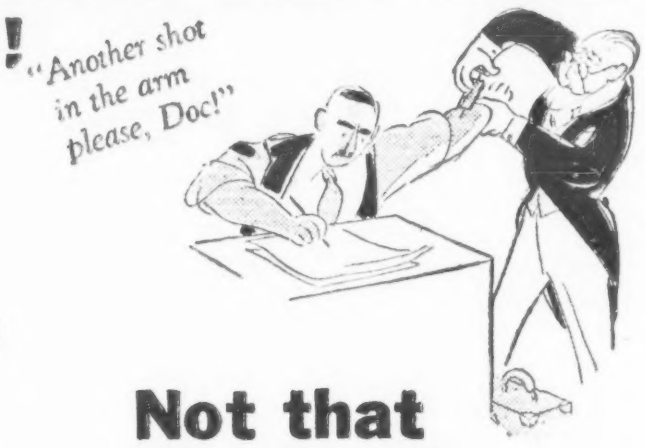
when the Announcement Boys are having fun.
It's a great month for printers!
Let's be printers!

"Want to swap?"

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND PLEASE!

There's an awful lot of sincerity back of all companies' announcements. We all know that you've got to present a product properly or it's hard to have a talking basis on a list of pictures that mean a great investment! **BUT—**

BOY, HOW THEY HOKE IT UP!



"Another shot in the arm please, Doc!"

Not that M-G-M is any SHRINKING VIOLET!

Not that we're holier than thou

But—hell!—we are!

M-G-M IS ONE COMPANY

that doesn't have to trot out the gold and silver and all the fancy hand-made paper that makes things look good *(even if they're not!)*

M-G-M IS THE ONE AND ONLY OUTFIT THAT CAN SAY TO YOU—

AFTER ALL

aren't you buying

PROVEN PERFORMANCE!

Every year it has been the same—Leo in the Lead—especially this past year with such hits as "Min & Bill", "Reducing", "Paid", "Inspiration", "Dance Fools Dance", "Strangers May Kiss", "Trader Horn", "The Secret Six", "Shipmates", "A Free Soul" and plenty more to come before the end of this season.

THE WEIGHT OF OUR SALESMANSHIP IS CONSISTENT SUCCESS!

LET'S BUST BEAUTIFUL *(but empty)* BUBBLES and talk facts:

M-G-M STARS — *the greatest!*
M-G-M STUDIO — *A Miracle City!*
M-G-M STORY PROPERTIES — *Fabulous!*
M-G-M PERSONNEL — *the same ever-aggressive, ever-young, ever-alert showmen who now present their greatest line-up!*

THE CROWNING GLORY
of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1931-32

(we're using this phrase because we sincerely believe it to be truly descriptive)

48 PRODUCTIONS—

30 Star Productions

MARION DAVIES (2)
Her latest release of the current season, Fannie Hurst's "Five and Ten," is typical of strong dramatic vehicles for her in the coming year.

NORMA SHEARER (2)
At the top! One hit after another! "Divorcee," "Let Us Be Gay," "Strangers May Kiss" and watch for "A Free Soul" another sensation!

GRETA GARBO (2)
The One and Only Garbo! Her magnetic appeal is unique in the industry! "Romance" and "Inspiration" will be topped next season by wonderful vehicles available!

JOAN CRAWFORD (2)
She's just signed a long term contract with M-G-M! And she's got stories even better than "Paid" and "Dance Fools Dance" coming in the new season!

JOHN GILBERT (3)
Of which two will be "Cheri-Bibi" the powerful story by Gaston Leroux, and "Candle-light" the Broadway stage hit! Gilbert's steady march back to top ranking is certain with such dramas!

WILLIAM HAINES (3)
You'll be surprised! We've got production plans for Bill Haines that will make this happy American favorite bigger than ever!

BUSTER KEATON (2)
Consistently outstanding comedies "Free and Easy" "Doughboys" "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath" have won him a new and greater-than-ever following!

ROBT. MONTGOMERY (3)
The Star Makers of M-G-M have done it again! "Shipmates" is cleaning up! Two of handsome Bob Montgomery's vehicles next season are the stage hit "The Truth Game" and "Huddle" the magazine story.

RAMON NOVARRO (2)
His popularity never wanes! His charm and personality keep for him an ever loyal public Novarro's vehicles for the new year are powerful choices, to be produced on a big scale

WALLACE BEERY (2)
M-G-M grooms them. The public makes them stars after hits like "Big House" and "Secret Six." One of his stories next season is "Sea Eagles" to be produced in cooperation with the Navy!

LAWRENCE TIBBETT (1)
He has brought into theatres thousands of folks who don't ordinarily attend. And they keep coming ever after. He's a new, wholesome appeal that America likes!

LUNT-FONTANNE (1)
The greatest acting team in the world! The Theatre Guild Stars at last agree to appear in talkies and naturally they pick the leading company to make their debut!

LAUREL-HARDY (1)
By public demand! Laurel-Hardy in a feature length comedy "Pardon Us." Audiences asked for it. Hal Roach and M-G-M waited for the right story. And now it's completed and it's a riot!

COSMOPOLITAN (4)
Cosmopolitan is a success name! "Big House", "White Shadows", "Broadway Melody", "Secret Six" are just a few. Next season, among others comes "Skyscraper Souls" from the thrill-novel and serial!

Special Information Forthcoming About
MARIE DRESSLER PRODUCTIONS

13 Exceptional Pictures

FLYING HIGH
The sensational stage hit, a year on Broadway, filmed with its great star Bert Lahr!

THE CHRISTIAN
Hall Caine's immortal soul-novel perfect for talkies!

BOARDING SCHOOL
Ritzy young folks learn about life and love! A new locale dramatized by M-G-M showmanship!

THE AWAKENING
John Van Druten, writer of stage hits, clicks again!

NIGHT COURT
Human destinies judged while a city sleeps! A gold mine of drama by Mark Hellinger, Charles Beahan.

RED HEADED WOMAN
We bought Katharine Brush's newest Satevepost serial in manuscript! Now it's a national sensation!

BRIDGE VS. BRIDGE
Divorce! Never so dramatically told as in this Liberty Magazine story!

AFTER ALL
Van Druten's big London stage hit. It will soon be presented on Broadway!

ARSENE LUPIN
The master-thief comes to talkies! Tod Browning will direct!

WEST OF BROADWAY
Zane Grey's best-seller "Shepherd of Guadaloupe" in thrilling talkies!

GUILTY HANDS
Bayard Veiller, author of "Paid" scores again with another audience idea!

THE SQUAW MAN
Cecil B. De Mille's Giant Production! Months in the making! A brilliant cast!

HONOLULU
The lure of tropical Honolulu dramatized in a lavish and thrilling production!

"The Marquee 5"
Five Big Productions attuned to the psychology of the entertainment hour!

The Crowning Glory of M-G-M SHORT SUBJECTS — '31-'32

LAUREL AND HARDY (8)
CHARLEY CHASE (8)
OUR GANG (8)
THE BOY FRIENDS (8)
ZASU PITTS, THELMA TODD (8)
DOGVILLE COMEDIES (6)
FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (13)
FLIP THE FROG (12)
Cartoon Comedies
M-G-M SPORT CHAMPIONS (12)
FISHERMAN'S PARADISE (6)
SIR HARRY LAUDER (4)
HEARST METROTONE NEWS (104)
The super-newsreel of the newspaper, radio and screen, with which is incorporated THE GLOBE TROTTER.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
More Power To You!

Why
WILL MAHONEY
is a
BROADWAY STAR

Chicago "News," Feb. 19, 1931

"Always in the Way"

Will Mahoney, star of Earl Carroll's "Sketch Book," at the Grand opera house, made his stage debut at 8, singing "Always in the Way, I Can Never Play." Before that he had sung at the Okay saloon in Spokane, Wash., dancing for what he could pick off the floor. And before he could read he sold newspapers, an elder brother telling him what the headlines offered in the way of sales slogans. He is 5 feet 4 inches today, and at 17 was only 4 feet high. He crashed into Broadway vaudeville through stratagem. Having made himself a favorite in western two-a-day circuits, he found the gates of the big town still locked against him. He was an unknown. So he took a series of advertisements about himself in "Variety," the weekly trade paper of the stage. Week after week he bombarded the New York managers through this medium. At length, intrigued, they looked him up and gave the stage the comedian who makes me laugh.

Have VARIETY Work for You
It's a World Wide Salesman

Fred Allen Deplores Economic Conditions Overtaking Royalty

New York, April 29.

Dear Mr. Tishman:

Passing a downtown breadline yesterday and noting the peaked faces of those in line reminded me that I hadn't seen Blank and Blank for some time.

As you may know, I wrote their present act with a syringe, filled with argyrol, some months ago. At the time I filled the valveless device with the brownish preparation of silver, I had no intentions of writing an act. In the course of a subsequent action the whirling device got out of control and a goodly portion of the liquid sprayed on the wall.

Blank and Blank, ever in search of new material, saw the stains the following day and, thinking it was The Handwriting On The Wall, in shorthand, copied the hieroglyphics and soon after appeared in outlying RKO theatres in this assortment of spots.

These stains are still on my walls where I can show them if the Protected Material Dept. wants proof. I didn't want to mail the entire wall in to have this material protected.

The purpose of this message, Mr. Tishman, is to advise you that since King Alphonso has been dispossessed Blank and Blank think that royalty is also obsolete. Formerly I used to receive a few words of encouragement, but since the act played Ft. Wayne, naturally, I have had no word from the act since.

Rumors as Diet

Following the South Bend engagement, I heard the act raffled its wardrobe to get to the next town. These are fine how d'yer do's, Mr. Tishman, and all I have to say is, "What author can get fat on rumors?"

I realize that things are so tough that panhandlers are only stopping groups and ignoring individuals—and that an actor, standing outside of the Bond building, whistling "I've Got Five Dollars" was stopped by a bum who wanted to borrow the last eight bars of the melody.

I know that gossip is so bad that Escape Artists, who used to be able to get out of trunks, packing cases and prison cells, can't get out of rooms on 47th street. I check with you on the matter of hungry patrons at the Grand, St. Louis, rushing up on the stage during the morning show when the eniment Shadowgraphist, Albert Donnelly, inadvisedly caused the shadow of a chicken to appear on his sheet. Incidentally, his sheet was recognized by two chambermaids at the Brevoort hotel, who gave the cotton fabric a reception at the five o'clock show. This will account for Mr. Donnelly's prolonged bowing at the opening of his act at this particular show, should mention be made of same in the manager's report.

Knowing all of these vital proofs that conditions are in a position where Flit would help immeasureably, and agreeing that midgets who are working are making Yes-men of Giants, I still cannot see reason for my clients ignoring their just debts. An ex-wizard, named Oz, assures me that he has received no commission, which makes us brothers under the skin.

Kindly give this matter your immediate attention, Mr. Tishman. There is an old saying, to wit: Everything comes to him who waits; and if you could hasten the culmination of the proverb in this instance, you will be doing humanity a favor. *Fred Allen.*

Joe Griffin's Divorce

Chicago, May 5.

It took Joe Griffin, Irish tenor, four years to find out his wife deserted him, and now he's suing for divorce.

Griffins were married in Brooklyn in July, 1916, and came to a parting of the ways in 1927. Since then Griffin has been paying his absent spouse $40 a week alimony. Divorce proceedings are being handled by Phil Davis.

Harry Padden on Farm

Harry Padden, former vaude booker, was sent to a farm at Newfalls, N. Y., last week for his health.

Padden once booked the Comerford houses and for a short time booked for RKO.

This Little Girl

One of Tex Guinan's little girls had occasion to make a phone call back stage while the act was at Loew's State, New York, last week.

Going to the phone in her undressed stage costume, Texas' little girl had trouble getting the number. It annoyed her and the operator finally tried to aid.

Waiting, Tex's little girl tried to convey to the AT&T young lady what she thought of the whole phone system by saying:

"This is the lousiest——— ——— ———, oh, hello Mama, dear."

Mgr. Brennan Hero Of Trenton RKO Fire; Acts Lose Wardrobe

Trenton, May 5.

Twelve hundred patrons marched calmly to the street when fire broke out on the stage of the RKO Capitol theatre on South Broad street toward the end of the last show Saturday night. The fact that there was not a single casualty was attributed to the calmness and coolheadedness of Manager James M. Brennan and the efficiency of his staff. The fire destroyed the entire interior of the 64-year-old playhouse and sent the roof crashing in with an estimated loss of $500,000.

The stage crew slashed the rope holding the asbestos curtain and as the shield fell into place Brennan stepped before the footlights, told the audience there was a fire backstage and asked them to "please leave as quietly and quickly as possible."

Fire was believed to have started in the electric wiring in the fly gallery above the stage. It was from there that sparks first dropped to the stage behind the screen on which the feature film was being shown, following the vaudeville performance. All the acts had gone.

Leatrice Joy's wardrobe was saved, but Alexander and Olsen, George McClellan and the Andressens lost theirs. Alexander and Olsen were breaking in here with new costumes.

Editorials in Monday papers extolled Brennan as a hero for clearing the theatre without mishap.

Capitol was leased by RKO from the Trenton Theatre Building company, headed by Frank V. Storrs, and loss is covered by insurance. It was the old Taylor opera house. Vaudeville may be transferred to the Lincoln, another RKO house.

REHEARSAL PUNISHMENT

Cancellation or Suspension for Acts Too Late at RKO Rehearsals

Tightening up the vaudeville rehearsal rules, RKO will make cancellation the penalty for acts reporting over 15 minutes late, and three months suspension for those failing to show up at all.

The cancellations are automatic and not vested with house managers' judgment. Tardiness must be reported by the managers, with the complaint from then on handled by the booking office.

Acts appearing 15 minutes late will be out for the current engagement and remain out until reinstated by the New York Office. The three months' suspension for acts not arriving, late or otherwise, will mean disqualification from the RKO books for that period, at least.

RKO claims acts' tardiness at rehearsals has been common lately.

2 ORTHS' BAD CRASH

Los Angeles, May 5.

Orth Trampoline Troupe was down to three members Monday at the RKO. Irving Spottswood and William McCauley are in the hospital seriously injured from an auto crash Sunday.

Driving home to Pomona after the show, they crashed into a car driven by James McCoy and his wife, killing the couple. Spottswood and McCauley will recover.

PARKS-MORTON

Eddie Parks and Gordon Dooley's Widow as New Team

Martha Morton of the Morton family and widow of Gordon Dooley, and Eddie Parks, formerly Eddie and Grace Parks, have formed a two-some. They open for RKO at the Jefferson, New York, May 9.

Since her husband died about a year ago, Miss Morton has appeared only briefly on the stage. She was with Bobby Watson for a short time.

BOB HALL'S PET COIN HOBBY REVEALED

Cleveland, May 5.

Bob Hall, former pet of the Keith office, switched affections to the automobile industry upon arriving here for his Loew's State date this week and got himself in a mess of trouble. The single made a bargain with a local pop priced car dealer, under which he was obliged to mention the make and the store plenty in his act on the State stage.

When Harry Shaw, State manager, met the buggy dealer after Hall's opening day, he mentioned the break the latter was receiving in the free stage plug. The dealer said the plug wasn't so free.

The Loew house ordered Hall to stop the stage advertising for side coin and almost cancelled him. Upon Hall's plea for a personal hearing, the Loew booking office in New York agreed to let the matter rest until Hall returns there next week.

Hall admitted money was involved in his auto ballyhoo on the stage, but said most of it was to pay plants he uses in the audience.

Under the billing of "extemporaneous chap," Hall makes lyrical rhymes out of news subjects called out by the audience.

Lady Egg Tosser Hits Girl Target on Stage For Muscling Hubby

Davenport, Ia., May 5.

Mrs. Willard Hauer, once of the comedy stock at the Star here, got revenge and a big hand when she hurled 14 samples of putrid hen fruit during a matinee, scoring a hit with each piece. The target was Lillian Steffen, recently of Detroit, featured woman.

Mrs. Hauer, an expectant mother, said she left the hospital to toss the eggs after the Steffen woman failed to heed a warning to stay away from her husband, a meat-cutter. Buying a sack of ancient eggs, Mrs. Hauer went to the matinee, and took a seat in the second row.

"When that woman came on to do her song number, she was all dressed in white," Mrs. Hauer said. "She threw back her head, opened her mouth and I let her have it. She just stood there and I pitched the eggs as fast as I could. Boy, you should have seen her. Eggs in her hair, on her face and all over that nice white dress.

"After I threw all the eggs, I stood up and told the audience why I egged her and I sure got myself a swell hand."

The egged songstress squawked to cops who called in Mrs. Hauer and her husband. They went into a huddle with a police captain acting as m. c. No charge has been filed against Mrs. Hauer.

"I'll get more eggs and let her have it again if she doesn't leave my husband alone," the lady egg pitcher asserted.

NAOMI RAY'S APPENDIX

Naomi Ray of Ray and Harrison was operated on for appendicitis at Royal hospital, New York city, Saturday (2).

Team was forced to cancel its booking in Newark this week when the operation became urgent.

Roxy's Ideas on 2-a-Day Vaude May Happen Before Radio City Starts—Palace as Trial Spot

With Radio City and his manifold endeavors there still two years hence, Roxy is reported, now that his association with the Radio Family group is pay rolled, milling over ideas chasing themselves under his hair about a two-a-day vaude revival. RKO has the theatres and Roxy thinks he knows the towns where his big time vaude won't be hard to take.

Roxy won't discuss vaude, Radio City or RKO. He just goes dumb when meeting an inquiring reporter. His suite in the RKO Palace theatre building is just above the vaude booking office. Roxy has been giving the flight of stairs in between an awful workout of late.

That Roxy is reported about to take the transcontinental trip with Hiram Brown and David Sarnoff, a couple of toppers in the Radio circle, that is to start around May 10, means to the gossipping vaudevillians that that's the beginning of the new inner RKO circuit for the two-a-dayers. They say Roxy will point out train windows to Sarnoff and Brown the various cities they will pass through where his big time will be a push over.

Two years is a long while for an inactive Roxy. Studying blue prints of Radio City is merely an itch for him to do something, now that his working agreement with Radio has leaped into life. One of the stories thereby hooked in is that Roxy may try his ideas out first at the big time Palace on Broadway, taking that headache away from the Palace bookers.

Palace as Try-out

Another reason for the Palace going under Roxy's direction is that he would be able to employ it as a try-out idea, perhaps in miniature, for fthe schemes he may have evolved thus far for the far bigger stage that will come to him for variety purposes upon the completion of Radio City. If discovering those ideas are feasible from the Palace experimentation, Roxy may sell the big time idea in around 15 or 20 U. S. towns to Radio heads.

Either way it will keep Roxy in his usual show making form pending the opening whistle for the new Radio City.

Anyone nowadays who can take 15 or 20 Class A theatres on any circuit and turn them into a new profitable entertainment policy would be looked upon by the circuit operators as a messenger from heaven. Roxy's friends say Roxy's that positive about a new vaudeville of the big time kind he's going to try.

Thespian Firemen

Bucksport, Me., May 5.

Gypsy Pavilion, recently burned down, is being rebuilt and its owners, Ora Heath and Forrest Knowlton, say it will be ready for use June 1.

During the fire many members of the fire company were in Castine, where they were taking part in a minstrel show.

Gus Van Must Pay Rothstein Co. $9,200 Over Gambling Debt

Judgment for $7,800, plus interest of $1,406, was entered against Gus Van last week before Judge William T. Collins in New York in favor of the Rothmere Mortgage Corp., one of the late Arnold Rothstein companies which sued Van under a note of the actor for $10,381.

Van had made two payments, one for $381 and the other for $2,200 on the notes, signed in an alleged dice game at the Fairfield hotel in 1928.

Van had previously met Rothstein and borrowed money through the late gambler from three of his associates giving post-dated checks which did not go through. These checks were never returned to him, Van contended they should have been if not honored.

2 AD PLUGS ON AN RKO STAGE

Syracuse, N. Y., May 5.

While the RKO circuit presumably is on record as opposed to commercial advertising upon its stages, RKO Keith's here this week has two direct plugs.

On the stage, Marion Sunshine, directs attention to the Victor recording of her song, "The Peanut Vendor." Larry Rich, as m. c. follows with the remark the circuit does not permit advertising, but that Miss Sunshine really didn't tell the audience to buy the record—she merely brought it to their attention, a nervy 2d plug.

The organ novelty of Carlton James, flashed on the screen, features a song tying in the sales slogans of nationally known products, the final direct plug being for Murad cigarets.

Victor is a Radio group affiliate.

DOOLEY-SALES NO MORE

Just J. Francis Left on Move—Wife Is Tea-room Operator

J. Francis Dooley is framing a vaude act with Joe Whitfield and Milderd Benson in it.

This leaves out Corinne Sales of the former Dooley and Sales act.

Miss Sales (Mrs. Dooley) has quit the stage in favor of her own tea shop at Baldwin, L. I.

Can't Join Show

Burns and Allens request for temporary release from their RKO vaudeville contract has been rejected by the booking office. The act stated they had received two offers for revues.

The team has two years to go with RKO.

NADEL GOES NATIVE

Hollywood, May 5.

E. K. Nadel, gone native, is New York-bound to clean up his affairs and come back here to engage in picture production. He handled the "Stolen Jools" short production for the NVA and got some local studio attention.

Pat Casey and Nadel were with the RKO convention party on the Radio special that left here Saturday (2).

$99,000 JUDGMENT TO HILTON TWINS IN SUIT

San Antonio, May 5.

Judgment for $99,000 has been awarded the Siamese Twins, Hilton girls, in the action brought against their former manager and guardian, Myer Myers. Action was for an accounting. It involves exhibition earnings by the Twins while under Myers' direction and the $75,000 Myers' home in this city.

Myers had managed the Hilton sisters for years, playing them as a freak attraction in theatres and outdoors. The girls alleged their poverty-stricken mother had sold them to Mary Hilton, a London nurse, 20 years ago, and that the Hilton woman was the mother of Myers' wife. Through this the twins accounted for Myers' hold on them.

Following the trial the entwined pair played in Publix houses of this section.

Zita-Howard in Divorce

Dubuque, May 5.

The double, stage and married life of Zita Plamondon Rigdon and John Howard Rigdon, vaude dancing team known as Zita and Howard, is due for a break.

A divorce action has been filed by Zita for the May term of district court here.

RUBY NORTON

with

CLARENCE SENNA

in a new edition of

"Famous Blondes"

From the Baltimore "POST," April 14

"As you walk to the Maryland Theatre this week you will notice that Ruby Norton's name is up in lights as the headliner on the two-a-day bill there. Once inside the theatre after seeing her act, consisting of 'Famous Blondes,' you realize she justifies that position. Her Sophie Tucker number especially was a real gem and was a tremendous hit with the audience. Here is one artiste who gets over because of original material and hard work instead of resting upon her former laurels."

RICHIE CRAIG Jr.

NOT at the Palace this week.
NOT breaking all house records.
NOT the biggest laughing hit in years.
NEVER moved down from second to next-to-closing.
DON'T have to thank anybody for their MANY offers.
NEVER was held over by popular demand.
NOT booked solid until 1974.
NOT an international instantaneous hit.
NOT AT THE PALACE NEXT WEEK.

MY ROUTE

June 8.....Jefferson Theatre, New York
June 8.....Jefferson Theatre, New York
June 8.....Jefferson Theatre, New York
June 8.....Jefferson Theatre, New York
June 8.....Jefferson Theatre, New York
June 8.....Jefferson Theatre, New York

TRAVEL

December 26.....Red Bank, N. J.

Thanks to Belvedere Hotel for releasing my trunks.
Thanks to my many FRIENDS for releasing my gags.

P.S.—Broadcasting over Columbia System, coast-to-coast hookup, every Tuesday night.

RUSSELL NORMA L.

FERRIS AND RAY

REVUE

"Hollywood to Broadway"

Playing

RKO THEATRES

LOMA WORTH

JUST RETURNED FROM EUROPE

THREE LATE GIVEN NEW BILLINGS

"THE MUSICAL MARVEL"—HEARST NEWSPAPERS
"THE HUMAN ORCHESTRIAN"—LONDON 'STANDARD'
"QUEEN OF JAZZ"—SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSPAPER

ABOVE ARTISTS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

HARRY A. ROMM

Representing Every Branch of Show Business
RKO VAUDEVILLE, RADIO, PRODUCTION, PICTURES, RECORDINGS,

LEONARD ROMM, Gen. Mgr.

SAM HOWARD, Associate

TELEPHONE
BRY. 9-8534
9-8535

PALACE THEATRE BUILDING NEW YORK CITY

CABLE ADDRESS
HAROMM, N. Y.

REPRESENTING EXCLUSIVELY

J. G. MAYER, Ltd.

BANK OF HOLLYWOOD BUILDING, Hollywood, Calif.

Speaking of Wives, Glason Tells Of Differences, as He Sees Them

Cleveland, April 30.

Editor Variety:

First, I didn't give out the preamble that appeared a few weeks ago, regarding Bob Nelson. Your representative recognized the pilfering without being reminded.

Nelson's letter to you gives him away and he practically makes admission that he not only wants free material but free advertising. He shows his smallness by even slamming Variety from the stage. Such a man shows that he will resort to anything.

I never said that I wrote Nelson's act. I said that I had given him gags free of charge. If they were newspaper gags, why didn't he do them before I gave them to him, or why do them at all?

What a silly argument. "A pal shares everything with a pal, but his wife." Why don't you let your pal start another Variety, and give him half your news and advertising. Yeh, yeh!

To go into the "Smile a Little Bit" controversy would take pages. All I can answer is that Harry Link, who really should get credit for the song, got nothing. At one time there were a half dozen names

(Continued on page 54)

WILMA EARLYNE
WALLACE
RKO Circuit of Theatres
Dir.: Weber-Simon Agency
Thanks to Nick Bolla

AL RUSS
DeVito & Denny
with Dot Stevens
in 'ANYTHING FOR A LAUGH'
RKO, Salt Lake City

ALF WILTON OFF B'WAY

Agent Makes Combination Office and Home At Manhattan Beach

After 25 years an agency figure on Broadway, Alf T. Wilton has deserted the main alley in favor of his home as an office address. It's at 181 Fairmouth street, Manhattan Beach, at the end of Brooklyn. Besides his own place in the restricted Beach settlement, Wilton has other homes there which are under rental.

While Wilton is doing a general agency business from the new address, booking all around as usual, he is innovating bookings for Television broadcasts. He gathered the program for the recent WOR Television dem nstration.

YATES-GORDEN COMBO OFF FOR PRODUCING

Irving Yates and Max Gorden have called off their contemplated joint vaude unit producing venture. Under the off agreement, Yates will complete the present unit for RKO with Ben Blue headlined, while Gordon may produce a unit on his own for RKO after the excitement of opening his new revue for Broadway has passed.

Gordon has been intensely concerned with his new show. It prevented any attention being given by him to the Yates-Gordon unit thing.

A. F. of L. Conferences

William F. Canavan, of I. A. and Joseph Weber, of A. F. of M., left Monday (4) for Washington for American Federation of Labor conferences.

Annual session of A. F. L. heads.

Memory Exercise

An act walked into a New York vaudeville theatre at rehearsal time Saturday morning and handed the music to the leader.

"What's your name?" asked the baton wielder.

"Nip and Tuck."

"You're not on the bill," said the leader.

"I know it," replied the straight man, "but we haven't worked for six months and we want to hear how our music sounds."

RADIO ACT'S $6,500 ON SPLIT DEAL WITH RKO

Cincinnati, May 5.

RKO Albee got $34,000 last week with Gene and Glenn on the stage. Gross gave the local radio team $6,500 for the week on a percentage arrangement of $5,000 and 50% split with the house over $31,000 gross.

The RKO downtowner has another air team, also on percentage, for week of June 5, Salt and Peanuts. Their deal is $1,500 guarantee, plus 50% over $27,500.

Salt and Peanuts' Albee date is the first RKO booking for a WLW air act since the local Crosley station established its artist bureau. Of late the WLW turns' stage dates have been with Publix and Warners.

More F-WC Vaude

Hollywood, May 5.

Fox-West Coast's Senator theatre, Sacramento, and Fox, Stockton, will add four acts on a split week May 9.

Fanchon & Marco will book out of Hollywood.

OSTERMAN ON FLOOR

Jack Osterman is going nite club as m.c. at the Paramount Grill, New York.

He opens on the floor there May 20.

4 SPORTS WRITERS IN PALACE ACT AT $4,500

Sports experts on New York dailies are the latest among columnists to get a fling at vaudeville. Four from as many papers will appear in a sketch at the Palace May 20 at a salary of $4,500.

Damon Runyon of the American, Dan Parker of the Mirror, Bill Corum of the Journal and Ned Brown, formerly fight expert for the Morning World, comprise the foursome. Runyon wrote the act, which is figured to include Jack Benny, who will m. c. the show that week.

Jenie Jacobs did the booking. Act has three days at the Coliseum prior to the Palace.

Delaney Agenting

Bill Delaney, former Keith's booker, has connected with the Harry Weber agency in Los Angeles.

SHAW AND LEE ABROAD

Shaw and Lee sailing May 22 for London for a two weeks' over there. Open at the Palladium June 1.

$13,500 COST AT CAPITOL FOR 3 TOP ACTS

With three acts averaging $4,500 each, the Capitol, New York, will dispense with its regular band presentation policy for a $13,500 specialty bill the week of May 15. George Jessel, Vincent Lopez and Helen Kane are the names, all to appear in front of the Lopez band on the Capitol stage.

For that week the Loew picture house will drop its 32-girl line, with the house musicians remaining in the pit. The Jessel-Lopez-Kane bill is booked for the Capitol only and doesn't play the balance of the Loew presentation route.

Additional high salary bills for the Capitol during the next two months are reported to offset an anticipated weakness on the screen during that period.

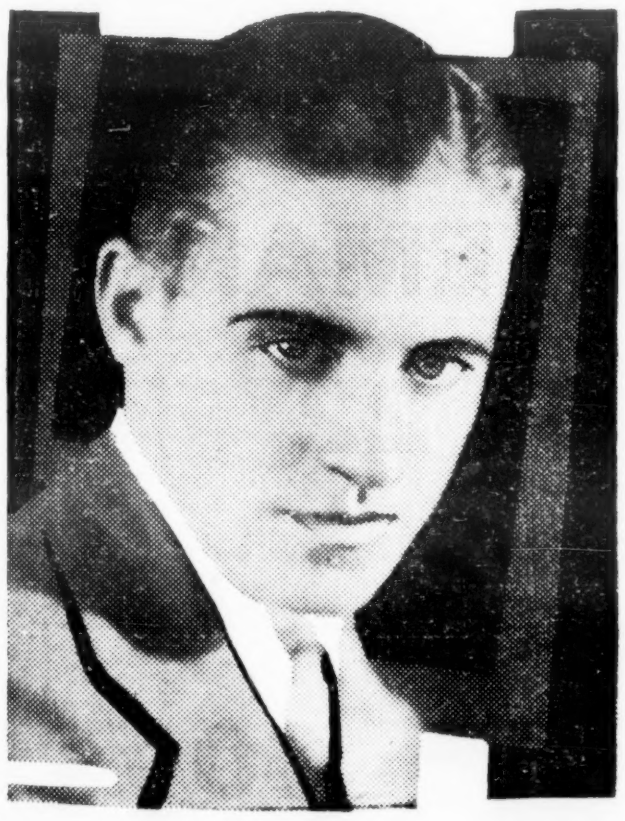
BLONDELL & MACK ATTRACTIONS
BOOKED SOLID AND HEADLINING
FOR RKO UNTIL JAN. 2, 1932
VIOLET CARLSON
Direction: ARTHUR S. BLONDELL & WM. MACK

BOMBY
AND
RADIO GANG
CEDAR RAPIDS & DAVENPORT

Henry J. Kelly
RKO THEATRES

TRACY and VINETTI
RKO
ALBANY & TROY
WEEK MAY 2nd

SAM SHEPARD
PRESENTS THE
5 Hot Shots
RKO ALBANY
WEEK MAY 2nd



PETER HIGGINS
The Young American Tenor

Now Appearing
RKO PALACE, New York
[Week May 2]

FRANK DIXON at Piano

Personal Management: HARRY FITZGERALD, DANNY COLLINS

"SONGLAND'S PENNANT WINNERS"

N. Y. "AMERICAN," MAY 4
"Bernard and Henrie, two members of the fairer sex, emulate Gus Van and the late Joe Schenck. They are a pleasing pair of songstresses and their songs are amusing."

N. Y. "TRIBUNE," MAY 4
"The Misses Bernard and Henrie, newcomers at the State, gave vocal numbers with pleasing voices."

N. Y. "SUN," MAY 4
"Bernard and Henrie add the singing spice to the bill."

THE FEMALE "VAN and SCHENCK"

BERNARD AND HENRIE

THIS WEEK (MAY 2)

LOEW'S STATE

NEW YORK

Direction
JACK CURTIS, R-K-O
Ind. WM. MORRIS AGENCY

THE INGENUES

"THE FEMALE PAUL WHITEMANS"

22 GLORIFIED GIRLS 22

AFTER CONCLUDING A WORLD TOUR
A SEASON WITH PARAMOUNT-PUBLIX

60 WEEKS RKO CIRCUIT 60

THIS WEEK MAY 2 — **PALACE** NEW YORK — THIS WEEK MAY 2

RESUMING ANOTHER WORLD TOUR

OPENING INTER-COLONIAL EXHIBITION, PARIS, JULY 1

Owner and Producer:
E. G. SHERMAN

DIRECTION
Ind.—WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY
RKO—HUGO MORRIS

ACTS SLOWLY ROUTED WITHOUT OPPOSISH

Routing of vaude acts in the RKO office is very slow to date with only 12 acts holding long contracts at present. The routes as laid out start around June 20 with the last going out Oct. 24. This excepts acts now on the intact time.

Some acts have offers but have not accepted because of differences such as salaries, cuts, layoff, spots, etc. The addition of these to those already signed would still not make much difference in the present total.

Plenty of spots open on the RKO books. Slowness of booking is not due to congestion, but rather to carelessness of buying on the part of the bookers.

With more vaude competition the rush would be on for new acts as in the old days of many circuits.

Out For Summer

Opera House, New Brunswick, N. J., eliminates vaude after this week for straight pictures until Aug. 15.

The vaude is booked by Dow.

Sensational Return Engagement
in Loew De Luxe Theatres
FRANK
MITCHELL
and
JACK
DURANT
"MIRTH CONTROL"
Valencia, B'klyn, N. Y.

12 Vaude Wks. for Comm. Acts on Fox-Loew Time

Fox- F. & M. booking office has effected a tie-up with the metropolitan newspaper contact department of Loew's through which Fox will also play commercial acts, under the same salary arrangements.

The four or five vaude weeks on the Fox books gives the commercial advertisers around 12 weeks for direct stage exploitation.

Routing of adv. acts will be coordinated between Fox and Loew. The first commercial off the Loew time to go Fox is the Bosch Radio band, which opened at Fox's Rivoli, Hempstead, last week.

Bus, Truck Jumps for Coast Presentation Unit

Hollywood, May 5.

A presentation unit which will travel in two busses and one truck has been framed here by Ted Cole. Company will play up the Coast and through Idaho and Montana, opening at Warners California, Santa Barbara, for a three-day stand, May 10.

Company includes Ted Cole, Jackie Shannon, Duva Sisters, Gwenn Bailey, Zada Darveen, Irene Thomas, Fred Whitney, Doylle Sisters, June Day, Lois Lyman, De Lacey Sisters, a 10-piece band and 12 line girls.

Harry Kelly and Ralph Rosk are ahead of the company.

EMILY CARSON HURT

Emily Carson, (Mrs. Solly Violinsky) in Cedars of Lebanon hospital, L. A., with concussion of the brain. Her head was jolted against the roof of a Warner Bros. bus carrying players to location.

2 LOEW BRONX HOUSES ON FENCE OVER VAUDE

Loew's National and Boulevard, Bronx, are on the fence over continuation of the vaude end. The two managers, Bernstein, at the Boulevard, and Henry Loew, have been asking, it is said, to discontinue the vaude and go straight picture policy in the two stands.

Strong opposition is claimed to this idea of cutting the vaude from spots in the Loew home office, notably from Gene Picker, who is the Metropolitan picture booker for Loew. He is said to retain a big interest in the Spooner theatre, located directly across the street from the Boulevard, and the Victory, which is near the National. These houses play straight pictures and if the two vaudefilmers go straight also, they may cut into the Spooner and Victory grosses.

Loew and Bernstein are said to look with disfavor on the overhead necessary to carry the vaude shows. National is across the street from the RKO Royal, which plays vaudefilm. The Boulevard has for its nearest competitor the Crotona (Fox) and which for years has been a combo vaude and picture theatre.

Suit for Difference

Radian Dancers have filed suit in City Court, New York, claiming $2,000 back salary from Albert Bouche, allegedly not paid for dancing performances at the Villa Venice, Miami Beach. Julius Kendler represents the Radian clan.

It is alleged that Bouche guaranteed the dancers 12 weeks at $500 per and they were only employed for 8 weeks. Suit is for the difference.

Radio Adv. Act in Publix Chicago Theatres with Doubling Privileges

Publix-B. & K. has booked the Bosch Radio band for the Oriental, Chicago, the week of June 2, with other B. & K. Chicago houses to follow.

Salary arrangements are the same as between Bosch and Loew's, with the radio people paying the large share of the band's salary for the stage advertising. The deal was handled by Louis R. Lipton for B & K.

Contract allows the Bosch band to double into the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, while playing the B. & K. houses. B. & K. is interested in the commercial stage tie-up of ad acts to the extent that if this proves successful, others will follow.

Philco Radio orchestra, with Ray Bowley and 12 musicians, opens for Loew's at the Metropolitan next Saturday (9) instead of Bay Ridge as originally booked. The rest of the New York Loew and Fox time will follow.

This is a commercial hookup between the radio people and Loew's along the usual commercial lines.

STARTS STAGE POLICY

Chattanooga, May 5.

Taking one act from the closing Publix unit at New Orleans for each half, the local P-P Tivoli started this week on a split-week stage band policy.

Besides the one unit act each half, the shows include a stage band and m. c., both local.

Ward With Gordon

Harry Ward, RKO agent, is switching from Jack Curtis to the Max Gordon office.

Booking office consented.

BOB BILLY HARRY

GORDON--REED AND KING
"THREE YOUNG MEN OF MANHATTAN"
Playing LOEW'S DE LUXE THEATRES
WEEK OF MAY 9th, LOEW'S PARADISE, NEW YORK
Personal Manager CHARLES V. YATES

DENO AND ROCHELLE
Originators of the "RACKETEER DANCE," Assisted by KATHERINE BLACK
PLAYING THEIR 7th RETURN ENGAGEMENT THIS WEEK (MAY 2, 1931) AT
RKO PALACE, NEW YORK
FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL SEASON OF PUBLIX AND LOEW PRESENTATION HOUSES

NEW YORK "EVENING JOURNAL"
May 4, 1931
"Deno and Rochelle as ballroom and eccentric dancers manage to combine the best features of both."

NEW YORK "SUN"
May 2, 1931
"Deno and Rochelle offer a new and spectacular dance act."

NEW YORK "EVENING GRAPHIC"
May 4, 1931
"....Deno and Rochelle an excellent dance team."

NEW YORK "HERALD TRIBUNE"
May 4, 1931
"Mr. Deno and Miss Rochelle provide the performance with an excellent start. Their dance routines are all original and adeptly executed."

NEW YORK "MORNING TELEGRAPH"
May 4, 1931
"Another dancing act is Deno and Rochelle wherein the lady half of the combination is thrown here and there to the delight of the audience."

NEW YORK "AMERICAN"
May 4, 1931
"Then there are Deno and Rochelle whose dancing is entertaining."

NEW YORK "EVENING POST"
May 4, 1931
"Deno and Rochelle do well with their dances as usual."

NEW YORK "DAILY NEWS"
May 4, 1931
"Deno and Rochelle in a dance act—and a fast one too."

SAILING MAY 15, SS "ILE DE FRANCE" TO APPEAR PALLADIUM, LONDON, JUNE 1st
REPRESENTATIVES: RKO, MARTY FORKINS; EUROPEAN, WILLIAM MORRIS

BUSTER WEST and JOHN
THE ORIGINATORS
SAILING IN AUGUST FOR EUROPE
THIS WEEK (MAY 2) R-K-O PALACE, NEW YORK

CARL SHAW In "Gee, I Nearly Slipped"
with AUDREY and EVA GIBSON and
JIMMY KING and JOE RALLO
THIS WEEK MAY 2—LOEW'S STATE, NEW YORK
PERSONAL MANAGEMENT SAMUEL BAERWITZ

Commercial Air Band As Non-Advertiser on Stage at 50-50 Salary

Under a non-commercial arrangement Loew's is playing the La Mannos Parisian orchestra, advertising broadcaster for the Ybri perfume company, at about half the band's regular salary, with the advertiser making up the difference. While not receiving advertising in the act's vaudeville dates, the perfume firm is getting back about 50% of the salary for which it is obligated to the band under a contract.

The band's weekly cost to the advertiser, for radio, is around $1,500. With Loew's paying the act $750 for vaudeville, it costs the advertiser the other $750, but represents a $750 saving, since if not working the band would stand the advertiser $1,500. Thus the commercial is taking a slight loss to save a greater expense by acting as direct vaudeville agent for its radio advertising turn.

At $750 Loew's considers the band a buy strictly as entertainment, without permitting advertising in this case, by stage plugging or title. The name used in the vaudeville dates is not the same under which the band is known on the air. In broadcasting the band's title includes the name of the perfume company.

Babe Egan's Title Rights

Under a Variety Managers' Association ruling Loew's was obliged to change the billing on Charles Green's Parisian Redheads, girl band, while playing the act last week.

Babe Egan's Redheads, another girl band and prior user of the title, made the complaint.

F. & M.'s Mgr.-P. A.'s

Hollywood, May 5.

First two appointed under Fanchon & Marco's new plan of having company managers start touring with units here instead of in St. Louis are Brice Kennedy and Fred W. McLellan. Kennedy is with the "Talent" unit and McLellan with "Varities."

Company managers to two more units. Louis Lissner goes with "Moonlight Revels," now on the road, and Al Smith leaves local representation of a trade paper to his wife while he handles the Great Raymond unit.

Company managers also act as press agents.

PUBLIX-RKO POOL IN OTTAWA AND WINNIPEG

An RKO-Publix operating pool involving eight theatres in Ottawa and Winnipeg, two principal Canadian cities, is being consummated. It is on top of the previously reported pooling deal by the same circuits for some U. S. cities. Publix has three and RKO one, all straight pictures, in Ottawa. In Winnipeg Publix has two straight filmers and RKO one filmer and one combination house.

One of the terms is temporary discontinuation of stage shows in Winnipeg. This affects the RKO Orpheum in that city, with the house dropping stage bills after next week.

Orpheum plays the four-act intact vaude bills on the RKO road show route.

N. J. SPLITTER

Rex theatre, East Rutherford, N. J., has been taken over by Al Gotesman, who foreclosed on a mortgage. The Rex is an 1,100-seater and plays straight pictures with week-end vaude, booked indie.

Gotesman intends to make the policy vaudfilm, with the stage shows a split week basis of five acts each half.

Snyders Disagree

Tommy (Bozo) Snyder, burlesque comic, now playing RKO houses, is suing his wife, Fannie Palmer, former actress, for divorce in the Hagerstown, Md., courts.

Snyder's real name is Thomas F. Bleistein. He and Miss Palmer have been married 15 years but only separated about two years ago when she returned to her home in Maryland.

"Bozo" and Miss Palmer played together in Barney Gerard's "Follies of the Day," "The Americans" and in vaude. When they met Miss Palmer was a chorus girl.

Snyder's action was filed April 27 with particulars not made public.

Herk Quits Empire

Chicago, May 5.

I. H. Herk, after operating the west side Empire for the last 15 years, goes out June 15, when his lease expires.

Owner will operate the house, now a cheap grind spot.

PLANNING NEW SET-UP FOR COLUMBIA WHEEL

With the new Columbia burlesque circuit to replace the Mutual, new operators are reported in a huddle as to number of houses and complete working plan of the shows.

I. H. Herk of Mutual hooking up with Billy Minsky and Joe Weinstock, New York stock producers, it is likely that the show producing will be supervised by the latter with Herk devoting his time to the routes, houses and operating terms.

The indications are that the old franchise plan may be adopted by the new Columbia heads with the former guarantee policy in vogue.

Herk is in on some houses which will be swung to the wheel, but which of the Minsky group will be in and which will be out is something to be worked out this summer.

By May 23 the present array of Mutuals traveling on a 10-week house plan will have closed with Herk planning to follow with stock in some of the stands.

CHOP SALARIES IN ALL BUT ONE STOCK

General consternation in stock burlesque ranks has been caused by all of the operators deciding upon salary cuts for both principals and chorines. The only house apparently exempt is the Eltinge in West 42nd.

From the Minsky office went a slash at the Republic and Apollo, reported to average about 25%. This meant a five-dollar reduction at the Republic for chorus girls.

Cuts ranging from $5 to $25 went the rounds of the stock people in the stocks at the Gotham and Werba's Brooklyn.

At Irving place in 14th street the girls are working for $22.50 since the Sunday shows were dropped. Same salary goes for Werba's and Gotham where there are no Sunday shows.

At the Fifth Avenue there was a reported reduction of from $5 to $20 for principals, with the chorus girls remaining untouched, as the house has just launched Sunday shows.

The alibi for the cut is that summer's here and biz has begun to fall off.

ALL-COLORED WEEK STAND

Gayety, Montreal, Taken by Irvin Miller—May Get Others

Under the promoting direction of Irvin C. Miller, now in New York, all-colored show troupes will play one week at the Des Arts (old Gayety), Montreal. First company in is Miller and Lyles' "Runnin' Wild." It opened May 3. Second will be Miller's "Brown Skin Models."

"Liza," with Margaret Sims, follows "Models," with "Brown Buddies" the likely fourth attraction.

Miller opens each show on a Sunday. He expects to arrange other stands to follow Montreal.

Michaels Paid Off

Members of Dewey Michaels' burlesque stock at the Palace, Buffalo, returning to New York, deny reports the company closed with salary arrears.

Michaels paid all salaries in full.

Cleaning Up, Tries Vaude

Syracuse, N. Y., May 5.

Burlesque is definitely out at Frank Sardino's Syracuse theatre.

After stormy months, during which he was under fire from the Federation of Women's Clubs, Commissioner of Public Safety W. W. Wiard and Chief of Police Martin L. Cadin, Sardino has shelved burlesque stock—later disguised as "musical comedy" and "girlesque"—in favor of vaude and pictures.

Under the new policy the house will play subsequent run talkers and three acts of vaudeville, independently booked, at a straight 10c admission.

6 PERFORMERS GUILTY AND MAY GET 30 DAYS

Despite conflicting testimony by the police, six members of the cast of the stock burlesque troupe at the America theatre, Bronx, and the house manager, were convicted in Bronx Special Sessions of giving an "obscene and lewd performance." All seven continued in bail for investigation, pending sentence today (Wednesday).

The six performers, who face the possibility of 30 days in jail or a fine, are Jackie Diamond, Rosalie Bernard, Bebe Tobin, (Miss) Billy Norman, Frank Anderson and Morris Bernstein. Manager is Henry Suchman.

Company raided Feb. 19.

Another on Coast

Los Angeles, May 5.

Three girls and four men come up for sentence tomorrow (6), after conviction of having given an indecent performance in the Follies stock burlesque house.

Thomas V. Dalton, the asserted owner of the company, was acquitted. No direct connection between the show and himself could be made.

BUS TAB TROUPE

Taylor Co. Motors Between Fox-Pacific Houses in Northwest

Seattle, May 5.

Slade Taylor has wheel musical tab of 21 people swinging weekly from Bellingham, on north, to Aberdeen, on south. The company makes the rounds in its own bus.

Playing in Fox-Pacific houses, two nights in Bellingham, two in Aberdeen, two in Everett, and one in Olympia.

DIRTY BURLESQUE RAIDED IN WHEELING

Columbus, May 5.

Fourteen girls and three men, composing burlesque company, and the management of the Empire were arrested by deputy sheriffs and city detectives after the last show at midnight Saturday (2) and brought to the Ohio jail to answer to charges of participating in an obscene performance featuring a masked shimmy marvel, Miss T. N. T. The arrests followed repeated warnings by county and city officials. An ultimatum was issued by Chief of Police Fred H. Frazier ordering the theatre closed if any further dirty shows were attempted.

Unable to pay fines, a professional bondsman posted $2,200 for appearance Thursday (7) of arrested group.

Owners of the show said the engagement will probably continue uninterrupted, intimating that some of the objectionable script will be eliminated and that the specialty dancing will be toned down to the satisfaction of police.

Police Chief Frazier informed Patsy Brill, promoter of the show, and members of the company that the raid was staged following numerous complaints in recent weeks. He also declared that high-school students and younger boys were attending the performances.

Burlesque Changes

Fred Clarke has gone to Chicago to stage shows at the Rialto (stock) theatre.

Zonia Duval and George Shelton opened Monday at the Apollo, New York.

Hazel Miller joined Republic stock, New York, Monday.

Harry Evanson, comic, opened Monday at Irving place, New York.

Irving Yates
PRODUCTIONS
Lefcourt-Alan Building
1619 Broadway
NEW YORK CITY

BERT JONAS, Dir. BILLY JACKSON
THE SIX
FRANKLINS
RKO-Warner-F. & M.-Publix

Popular People Who Eat Regularly at
GERSON'S RESTAURANT
On 47th St., next to stage door of Palace Theatre, New York.
Lillian Roth, Murray Ritter, Willy Berger, Larry Puck, Chas. Freeman, Janette Hackett, Jack McLellan and "Sarah," Gus Hill, Ollivette, Phil Baker, Jack Curtis, Bert Lahr, Ray Hodgdon, Henry Busse, Chas. Davis, Lee Duncan, Harry Richman, Joe Laurie, Jr., Joe Bigelow, Major Donovan, George Bruce, Kedar Sisters and Lynch, Dora Maughn, Emo Orowitz, Bob Murphy, Little Jack Little.

DON GALVAN
RKO Chester, New York, now
87TH RKO WEEK
DIRECTION HUGO MORRIS

EDITH BOW
"Party Girl"
RKO
Direction: LEE STEWART

Marcus Loew BOOKING AGENCY
General Executive Offices
LOEW BUILDING ANNEX
160 WEST 46TH ST.
BRYANT 7800 NEW YORK CITY
J. H. LUBIN
GENERAL MANAGER
MARVIN H. SCHENCK
BOOKING MANAGER

DAVE GENARO
And His "YOUNGSTERS OF YESTERDAY"
May 9 AKRON, OHIO
PLAYING RKO CIRCUIT Direction: HARRY FITZGERALD BOOKED SOLID UNTIL FEB., 1932

TRIXIE FRIGANZA
RKO THEATRE, WINNIPEG, CAN.
CHAS. H. ALLEN, Personal Mgr.

First Appearance In America
RASSANA
"THE INIMITABLE"
This Week (May 2)
HIPPODROME, NEW YORK

PARAMOUNT, N. Y.

New York, April 30.

"Contrasts" is the title of the stage unit playing currently with the William Powell talker, "Ladies Man" (Par). "Hodge Podge" is another stock title for the same presentation formula, while some unit producers prefer "Harum Scarum."

Under "Contrasts" it's the same idea, or lack of one. Content is a series of disconnected specialties and production bits. So the more variety the more interest. This Frank Cambria troupe is fortunate enough in its specialty people to result in pretty good entertainment.

For the second week straight at the Paramount a Publix unit carries an act's name on top. This tiem it's Shaw and Lee, the two-man comedy team from vaudeville and musicals. Out before the drapes here as the unit's next-to-closer. Size of an auditorium makes little difference to this team once they're into their forte, pantomime. It probably was best that the rear of the house didn't get all of the talk, for much of the chatter is a shame. Its age is excusable in that it's padding rather than anything else, if you want to be charitable. The pair wound up to generous applause, however.

Rome and Dunn were a surprise in the reverse manner. Odd how this standard and yet team of harmonists could miss so widely in picking numbers. It is customary for them to sing one or two extras on recalls. Here they finished at two songs and didn't return. The reason was their finisher, a double—"The Peanut Vendor." Those who aren't sick of that Cuban ex-novelty probably don't care to hear it warbled as a ballad. Besides which it was a song, and never meant anything as such, long before they gave it the dance rhythm twist.

Ray, Ellis and Larue, from vaudeville like the other specialists, were on early for a nicely done waltz. They returned also later for an agadio. Now that the group adagio wave has passed, anything in that line must be exceptional to rate much attention. It almost means the necessity of breaking a leg, since most everything in girl tossing has been shown and overshown. This trio of two catching men and a flying 80-pound girl, take more risks than the average and draw much better than the usual response.

At the opening the Sanford-Martin 12-girl line perform an eccentric in flashy black and whites. A sort of jazz dance without a snakehips or cooch, and probably the first in a long while without 'em. Same girls, on their second and last showing, weren't so near home on their toes, but the costuming helped. At the finish some more line maneuvers lapped the actual dancing and saved the number.

Charlie Davis' stage band came down to the apron again for the vocal and instrument work-out. Davis also met a reception when stepping through the traveler at the start of the unit. They don't often acclaim an m.c. here, and they've seen most of 'em. It's the band work with his boys that seemingly has turned the trick for Davis. This week, in addition to some straight hot playing, they do a novelty bit in which they are grouped to represent an organ; while gloves with black stripes look like a keyboard and the singing is as near to an organ take-off as a bunch of musicians possibly can get.

Rubinoff and the pit orchestra are doing excerpts from operettas and the Crawfords, at the twin consoles again, use two pops. It's the first duet from the Crawfords in sometime here.

Goss and Barrows were programed in the unit, but didn't show Friday night. *Bige.*

LOEW'S STATE, L. A.

Los Angeles, March 30.

Fanchon & Marco's "Sketches" Idea is one of the weaker links in the chain. Long on talent but ragged in production it needs some restaging before it is average entertainment.

Presentation is built around a number by the line girls who work in front of eight easels drawing a series of lines on separate boards, which, when placed together, make two separate pictures.

Allan and Canfield, comedy talking team; Angelo, Andre and Sanger, slapstick adagio; Royal Gascoynes, novelty juggler; Limberlegs Edwards, eccentric dancer; Mildred Perlee, acrobatic dancer, and Frank Hopkinson, tenor, are the principals.

Opening is a great flash with the line girls, all lookers, seated on a bench with their dresses over their heads. All one sees is a flock of shapely gams. Gascoynes follows balancing strips of paper and finishing with a long drawn-out piece of business of lighting a cigar from a burning newspaper balanced on the end of the cigar.

Everett Hoagland's Troubadours, local band, in for one week, in the next spot. Band has been playing dance halls locally for the past two years. A straight dance band, it's not so hot on a stage. Bo Lee, the drummer, does two vocal choruses and taps out another. Local radio reputation of combo figured a draw but there was no reception on its debut.

Allan and Canfield holds an okay commedienne in Miss Canfield, with some of the best material seen in an F. & M. unit in some time. They tied the show in a knot. Canfield does a nice straight. Limberlegs Edwards' familiar eccentric dancing, backed by the line, scored neatly. Angelo, Andre and Sanger's hoke burlesque-adagio is broad and okay for picture houses. Frank Hopkinson in a vocal chorus and Mildred Perlee doing an acrobatic dance is the build-up for the finale, which has the line girls doing the usual posing in the background.

Entire presentation is jerky and the line work in places ragged. Cutting and a few more rehearsals should straighten them out.

Absence of an m. c. at the State is noticed with the acts suffering from lack of introduction.

"Daybreak" (Metro), feature; Charlie Chase comedy and Fox-Hearst news clips round out the show.

Business better than average the first evening performance. *Call.*

CAPITOL, N. Y.

New York, May 2.

Failure to book anything along with Irving Aaronson's Commanders left Aaronson and the Chester Hale girls a heavy assignment. Hence, the current stage show is not up to standard. Probably a less-expensive show, too. Picture is "Secret Six" (M-G).

"Bag of Blues" is the presentation build around Aaronson's orchestra of 23 men. It is staged by Arthur Knorr but with backgrounds noticeably simple. One set, in blue to carry out the idea of the title, stands throughout, with the band moving upstage for the Hale items.

Femme line opens with a brief dance, going into a song that serves to introduce the band. Intro idea oke, but the song not so good. The Hale girls are essentially dancers.

Bandsmen double for plenty of work including specialties and group numbers. First is a pop solo, with a weak dance for "The Peanut Vendor" following. Same hoofer later seems to get no farther in in his work, but does much better with comedy and chorus matter. Nine boys work as a chorus doing a drinking specialty topped by an xylo effect through hitting the bottles they carry. An air pump bit flivved.

Effective number was a ballad with Aaronson supplying accompaniment from the piano. Some good voices in the group. Farther down 10 of the musicians double for a comedy interlude, "You've Got to Ask Mussolini."

The Hales do one routine in sports costumes, part of the line following in acrobatic and specialty bits that puts a strong punch into the middle of the show. Nearer the close they offer a novelty in trick costumes which would make it appear they are dancing on their hands. Routine, however, could have been worked up for better effect and also quickened. At the finale the Hales simulate males, derbies 'n' all. Running time on stage an even 30 minutes.

Yasha Bunchuk and his pit crew do well with a nice arrangement of Gounod compositions. *Char.*

IMPERIAL

Toronto, May 2.

Bankhead build-up in "Tarnished Lady" is pulling them in this week. Fast moving stage bill, however, and customers getting a swell six-bits' worth.

First half of bill is in two before blue and silver back drop with band in pit. Ballet on in green scanties, green toppers and canes. Usual well disciplined routine, finishing with low-down staccato torso-tossing and arm-waving. Phil Arnold next for an Eddie Cantor impersonation followed by a fast tap which had the customers applauding for its swift tempo. This boy is a grand hoofer and the Cantor palmsmacking isn't necessary.

Jack Pepper, holdover m. c., on for two torch numbers. Good delivery and scores with the femmes. Ballet, still in two, back for acrobatic in silver and blue costumes. Faultless acrobatic routine by specialty quartet of girls. Finishes with pyramid formations and rates.

Wilton Crawley, of "Blackbirds," trails with his clarinet. Hot tooting, and his stage rolls, while playing, a novelty up here. Registered heavily.

Drapes into one with Pepper doing a Morgan on the Steinway. Four boys from the band then support Sugar Marcelle, husky-voiced and shapely blonde, in two numbers. Ballet back again in red and white with black ostrich-feather headdresses. Offer a stool routine and more pyramid building.

Full stage for Willie West and McGinty and their housebuilding skit. Not new but still good for laughs, even if stage crew continue to squawk at the mess these boys make. Unusual finale and a bit abrupt.

Newsreel with one American, one Canadian, three English and one Spanish clip, a comedy spool, and Kay Stokes at the organ. *Sinclair*

BRANFORD

Newark, May 2.

The policy at this house still varies with the novelties introduced putting it upon the right basis for business. Most striking this week is the use of the orchestra to kid the big baby popularity contest running in all Warner houses here. Instead of the usual formal number by the orchestra, Gabriel Hines, director, announces that the band will have its own baby contest and that, as the pictures of the members are shown, the applause will decide the winner of a fine gold loving cup. Then, successively, members of the band, Hines, and Reider at the organ, play solos in the spot with a baby picture on each thrown on the flower-covered screen. At the end, Hines awards a large brass cuspidor to the winner.

As recently done at the Stanley, Jersey City, Pat Lane, m. c., while introducing members of the Publix unit, also has his own unit, "Musical Pals." Consists of 12 younger members of the orchestra. They play several numbers with the words in white flashed on a screen for the audience to follow, thus cutting out Rieder's former job. Their playing is not so hot. Several of them dress up for a rhythmic melodrama with Lane and one in a baby carriage for big laughs. Also there are gags along the lines of the old Harry Crull impromptu shows.

Milton Douglas, former m. c. here, taken out of unit, does part of his stuff alone and part with Pat Lane. He gets a cold reception, but finally the low comedy done with Webb, his partner, has them shrieking. Sylvia Froos, from the Publix unit, is also brought in with the boys, and clicks. Harry Frink of "Pals" does what is called a triple tongue solo on the trumpet and liked.

All in the unit get across, including the Allison Sisters, the 12 Mary Reade Girls, and Conrad's Pigeons. The rest of the show includes a Warner musical short, a Pathe short of unusual interest with most of the sound cut to let the orchestra play, and "Iron Man" (U), feature.

A big holdout Friday night.

DENVER

Denver, April 30.

For presentation during Music Week, Director Fred Schmitt puts orchestra through what he calls "Straussania," being excerpts from the waltzes and other melodies of Johann Strauss, including portions of "Weiner Blut, "Pizzicato," "Tales from the Vienna Woods," and "The Blue Danube." Results the best in recent weeks with idea well received and loudly applauded. A Danube river scene, brought to life with lights, enlivened the presentation.

The stage show, "Romantic Nights," a sort of miniature comic opera, while slow in movement, was enjoyable and afforded a relief from the standard week after week Publix stage units. The full orchestra worked in the pit, furnishing accompaniment in a snappy and pleasing manner. Featured were Ray Bolger, with his foolishness and eccentric dances, always enjoyed in this town; June Wirth in her clever acrobatic dances; Leatrice Wood, soprano, and several local male singers as a chorus. Bolger's political speech over good and timely with election coming soon.

"The Finger Points" (FN), feature, news, a comedy and an ad picture completed bill. Biz fair at the third show.

PARAMOUNT, L. A.

Los Angeles, April 30.

Although the Paramount with local stage shows is not cheating its patrons on value received, it can give itself a decisive boot for tossing out coin hapharzardly. Example of this is the current featuring of Max Fisher and his non-distinctive band on the stage while Oscar Baum and his pitful of regular salaried musicians gaze upon a job they could have done just as well.

Baum shows the quality of his organization in an orchestral production titled "The Dance Studio," a light, simple and quite effective combination of ballet routining and pit music. Featured is the Collenette Ballet, which starts as replicas of figures on a painted scrim and thereupon pantomimes the rehearsals of a dance class under tutelage of a weazened little instructor. To bring out the dumb stude idea, Pert Kelton is added for a Lady Peelish attempt at light opera and an unrestrained trombone solo. This short, pleasant production overshadowed the far more pretentious stageband presentation.

Augmenting Max Fisher's 12-piece outfit in the latter piece were the Rhythmettes, feminine radio song trio doing it quietly through amplifiers: Louise Hunt, smooth songstress; Bud and Spud, crude male Apache comics, and Bird and Seed, colored shock-rhythm dancers. Dance team, starting out as a poor imitation of Buck and Bubbles, displayed increasing class as it got hotter and finally developed into the only popular entry in the line-up. The B. & B. idea (possibly) of tap routines done to far-between piano chords, becomes with Bird and Seed a marathon affair involving two pianos and much hot-footing across stage to take turns. With coaching (and they particularly need it on their poor talk interludes) these boys can climb in a hurry.

Tip-off on the Fisher band session is that it needed this colored team for its punch. On its own it had a long succession of pop numbers, including the locally dunned "Out of Nowhere" used by Olsen last week. For a finale there was the bearded gag of constantly exiting musicians, with Fisher finally on stage alone to start Tschaikowsky's "1812 Overture" on his fiddle. Baum and the pit orchestra joined in, and then Fisher's returning band, but the aisles were full and Fisher's really sweet fiddling was lost. When "1812" is a stage band presentation finale, Sinclair Lewis will be dedicating books to Dreiser.

"Ladies' Man" (Par-Powell) was doing well on the draw early Thursday. A commercial cartoon short plugging a brand of tea actually got laughs. Paramount News completed. *Bang.*

Newsreels

EMBASSY

Embassy's current layout of 15 Fox clips and 12 Hearsts, plus the Movietone one-reeler on the British navy, is woefully lacking in hot news. The few items falling into the news class are hardly lukewarm.

Most recent event flashed is dedication of the Empire State building. Nothing exclusive about the shot, in fact, they'd have been sore at any camera boy who muffed it.

The dedication is one of six notes on which the Embassy on Broadway and the Trans-Lux on Madison avenue are doubling up currently. Others are Gov. Roosevelt (again) on prison reforms, Fox and Pathe; David Belasco, Fox and Pathe; Monte Carlo auto race, Fox and Pathe; Prince Humbert and bride in Tripoli, Fox and Pathe; Mrs. Huddleston's 87-hour swim, Hearst and Par.

News scarcity is apparent in repeats without much rewriting on fruit spraying by plane and the Samoan women in the Sasa-Mauluulu arm and slap routine, both Fox. Either could have come as easily from the files.

Usual weekly French or Riviera carnival number is Hearst's on the Bal de la Horde, with nothing changed but the faces, and who can remember mob pans in the newsreels? It's Maypole time in France all the time according to the current events lenses.

Hearst's staged airplane crack-up, by a daredevil named Frakes, held the most excitement. Mex flaps slipped in twice, once in a bathing beaut contest, with nary a blonde in sight, and again in a physical culture drill.

Couple of fashion clips ran in succession. Opener on summer styles had its customary points of interest for women mostly or only, and the other concerned kids, but more entertaining. The juves recited for the regulation cute effect.

Bunch of mutts that probably would rather have received a bone apiece were presented with medals for life saving, burglar chasing or other heroic acts. They can't recall. Two pet owners told of their pups' feats in dialect for the program's best laughs.

Duke Alexander, brother-in-law of the late Czar, delivered a philosophical monolog on personal happiness and got in enough mentions of his deep love for the American people.

Balance comprised a spring festival in Prague, with applause for the stein tipping; Mrs. Wendlandt, wife of a Detroit cop, in dangerous target wielding for her sharp-shooting hubby; Mrs. Hoover getting an honorary lawyer's degree, amateur bouts at the Garden, introductions at a sports dinner and Cernak's inauguration, all Fox. Chief Magistate MacDonald in a talk full of "I's," Rube Goldberg telling gags, but not the truth about his golf, maybe a plug for Hearst papers, and Alfonso on the lam, all Hearst.

TRANS-LUX

New York, May 2.

Of 22 clips in the last half program (30-3) 13 bear the Pathe brand, five Paramount and four Universal. But it's an unusually interesting program. In fact, one of the best, generally speaking, projected since the opening here.

Pathe went to some expense to get an out of the ordinary subject. "Killer" Nannery being interviewed in his cell exceeds expectations. He not only sends a thrill reaction throughout the average spectator (especially after reading the Pathe editorial preface), but he closes with one of the biggest laughs heard in any newsreel emporium. This is his nonchalant "Yea, sure," answer to the weepy voiced interrogator's query, "If you get another chance, will you go straight?"

David Belasco goes dramatic when, with a bouquet in his hand, he tells of physicians' verdicts and his determination to fight death. This follows Belasco's presentation of a medal to Frank Gillmore at the Equity dinner.

Governor Roosevelt appears in three clips. In two he shares honors with Al Smith. These are the opening of the new port terminal in New York and the dedication of the Empire State building. Smith is in rare form at the terminal ceremonies. Universal's portrayal of California's anti-bad auto brake campaign is so obviously phoney that it provokes laughs. Two cars going over the cliff have been better photographed in the average quickie feature.

A piece of spot news is the Londos-Steele wrestling match. A rodeo, with a little more broncho busting than usual, and a Los Angeles auto race, with one of the cars going through the fence, are thrills.

Filler and magazine type of material include German armada in the Baltic, Hollywood chimp playing cameraman, that European monarch on the tennis courts again, widening the Panama canal, Italy's prince, and an army sham battle.

Out of the beaten path is a revival of Trudy Ederle, showing her teaching a class in Porto Rico, Mrs. Byrd telling the sensations the mother of a hero experiences, and racing cars using city streets in Monte Carlo as a track.

FOX, DETROIT

Detroit, May 2.

Ruth Etting in person and Phil Lampkin as the new master of ceremonies are the two items of importance this week. Ruth Etting has the audience with her during entire 12 minutes in which she does four numbers including "Ten Cents a Dance." The personal draw of Miss Etting was evident with the audience in large part walking at the conclusion of her act. With a voice that succeeded in filling this ball park of 5,500 seats with little apparent effort, this little lady demonstrated her true artistry. She could have stayed on indef but limited herself to four numbers. She is accompanied by two pianists who lend a very smart tone to the act, especially as the pianos are used with a dim spot from over head on the piano. The piano arrangements as used fill in and no not obtrude.

For the rest of the show it is just another Fanchon & Marco unit. Not as good as many and better than a few. This one is called "Love Letters" for no reason at all.

The feature is "Quick Millions." Business good. *Lee.*

CAPITOL, MONTREAL

Montreal, April 28.

Here's an example of a white elephant turned into one of the biggest money-makers in one of the toughest towns in North America. This week the Capitol will probably top the street.

Many years ago the house was Montreal's ace picture spot. It did business with the biggest and finest pictures at its disposal.

The Palace, another Publix house, at that time was ranked second. George Rotsky, present manager, had the house and, in a way, had to make the best of what he could get in the way of product.

The Palace, with Rotsky at the helm and second on product, developed into a winner, with the result that eventually it was turned into the ace house. It still remains the ace house under the same manager.

Given second pick on films, the Capitol showed a heavy drop. Several years ago, when stage shows in de luxe picture houses came strongly into vogue, a proposal was in view to bring Publix stage units to the Capitol. The Capitol manager at the time agreed, but later sold the operators in Toronto the idea of putting on his own stage shows with local talent.

Had the Publix units been sent into the Capitol as originally intended the Capitol would probably have remained in the money-making class without a break. The local talent gag, however, went in, and after a short-lived spasm of popularity dropped the house way out of sight.

Capitol went back to single features without stage shows and continued a heavy loser. About a year ago changes in operating policy went into effect in this district. Recently abbreviated Publix units were again tried. But about the only winning week was that during which Helen Kane made a personal appearance. Lillian Roth and Fifi Dorsay followed with personal appearances, but not much in the way of results.

The Capitol is now playing double features. While the double feature idea is subject to criticism as a means of drawing business, and is being subjected to general attack, it has proved itself a tremendous business builder here. Montreal is a

(Continued on page 47)

ED WYNN
Master of Ceremonies
45 Mins.
Palace (St. V.)

At $7,500 for the week and 14 shows on the week, Ed Wynn upon his return to vaudeville after 18 years, is receiving about $535.60 each show. On a weight-in-gold basis he's getting approximately $45 per pound. That's a lot in every way for a single in vaudeville. But in this case it's not too much.

Not too much for the Palace, where headliners are so sorely needed and headliners of the Wynn quality so scarce. On the Palace bill this week Wynn is just about the whole show. The best gauge to the balance between his salary and his value to the theatre might be found in imagining the current Palace layout without Wynn.

On the legit road this past winter Wynn, with his "Simple Simon" musical, was one of the few to slide home with a profit. If that drawing power in this comedian's name, besides his unquestioned ability to entertain any audience, applies also to the Palace this week, the $7,500 should seem even more reasonable. But if Wynn shouldn't draw at the Palace, what difference what kind of an act he does—at $7,500?

As the Palace m.c. Wynn is on six times between the acts, mostly alone, and finally at the end of the bill with Rosetta Duncan for about three-quarters of an hour in all.

Bulk of his stage biz is from "Simon," including the soda fountain scene, in which three Zieggy beauts dress up the Palace stage, and the "pianocycle" bit. The latter, with Miss Duncan seated on the piano, singing the German "Two Hearts in Waltz Time," while Wynn pedaled the contraption around the stage in waltz rhythm, gave the bill a howl climax and brought both out for a speech.

Wynn's nut narratives, "Inventions" and m.c. announcements all were liked. Some could not be topped by the acts introduced, but established a pace that seemed to carry the rest of the show along.

With things as they now are and Wynn's salary set at $7,500, it may be another 18 years before he's back in vaudeville, unless the Palace grabs him now and then if he can draw in vaude. *Bige.*

THEO. ADOLPHUS and Orch. (11)
Band, Songs, Comedy
20 Mins.; Full
State

Turn starts out as though a comedy band and then drifts off into straight work. Later mixes both. By the time the act is half-through it's neither a comedy nor a straight band act. And neither the orchestra work nor the comedy is any too good.

Nine pieces, seven wind and no string. Band is backgrounded almost entirely by Adolphus' attempts to comede and by two girls. A symphonic Hebrew medley is called "Rhapsody Hebrai." It's a conglomeration of numbers which are none too good. With the exception of "Eli Eli," barely recognizable, they are not familiar and entirely too brassy. That attempt at class through such a foreign medium is not vaude.

Adolphus has no substantial comedy. He finishes leading the orchestra as a ballet dancer would, and from that appears to be a cross between a dancer, comedian and band leader, adept at neither.

Two girls give fair assistance. One is announced as Helen Keller, on for a song number in which she goes into rough-house antics with Adolphus, and follows with a little weak hoofing. Other is a cute blonde, who, with Adolphus, does a ballroom dance, with Adolphus attempting to comede and hurting that bit thereby.

GOLDEN DREAM (3)
Equilibristic
11 Mins.; Full (Special)
Coliseum

Equilibristic turn with two men offering a splendid routine as a girl plays a violin during the act.

At the opening the men, in what appears as gold-leaf body encasement, remain motionless and seem a part of the upstage fountain setting. The femme musician walks out for a solo. Then the "statues" come to life and go through their hand-to-hand routine, along familiar lines but not overdone.

Entire turn pleasing and effective in an early vaude spot or for picture houses. *Mark.*

SAILOR COMEDY (4)
5 Mins.; One
RKO, Los Angeles

Male quartet in seamen's unies with usual vocalics.

Chief comedy constitutes a dash of hokum by-play, and the big vocal novelty is the circus calliope imitation, also familiar.

Back to the Navy. *Abel.*

BOB ORTH Co. (5)
Acrobatic-Trampoline
5 Mins.; Three
RKO, L. A.

Orth is a local fair producer not in this trampoline act.

Conventional acrobatics. Locally booked. *Abel.*

ARMIDA (7)
Singing, Dancing
16 Mins.; Full
58th St.

Billed as Gus Edwards' Latin American screen and stage protege, Armida, assisted by Arthur Humby and The Cubanolians, offers a mild affair that shows evidence of hasty routining and staging. Outside a flash of the exterior of a small Spanish casa, the act was played in the old black house eye that does duty for everything from acrobats to dog acts. If Edwards is to continue this young lady in vaude, his first move should be at least one colorful setting.

Armida sings in a thin, high voice, but her real forte is dancing. She did a bull fight number in the usual fashion, with castanets and swishing skirts. For the finish of the act she did the much kicked around Peanut Vendor in which she tossed out bags of them to the audience and patted a bald headed man on the dome. The band is Latin combo of piano, gourds, guitar, trumpet, snareless snare drums and a Cuban who knocks two sticks together. The pianist did a solo that was oke.

Not much left to this offering, outside of whatever name Armida has made for herself in pictures and an operetta.

RASSANA
Aerialist
8 Mins.; Full
Hippodrome

On her first appearance in America, Rassana, femme aerialist from Germany, impressed by her skill on the trapeze and the single loop by which she did the familiar backward body twist, a la Leitzel.

The act did not progress with the accustomed smoothness and dispatch of such turns in vaude, due perhaps to the rigging, which has been constructed for outside installation.

Rassana makes an attractive appearance and opens with a bit of toe dancing, well enough in a way, but merely serving as introduction. Rassana at the finish of her toe efforts attempted an announcement, but it was lost completely. Unnecessary as the woman could quickly go into her aerial routine without any interruption.

Rassana's standout is her body twist and an instance where she seems to do a shoulder dislocation in making turns. As she does the hand and wrist swing so long identified with the late Lillian Leitzel, it's natural a comparison will be made over here. *Mark.*

KANASAWA TROUPE (6)
Risley
7 Mins.; Four (Special)
State

Fast Jap risley turn. Features a variety of different body balancing and juggling stunts, all done expertly.

Act doesn't look new. Perhaps isn't and maybe recruited from the old Kanazawa Japs around some years ago with risley somewhat similar.

Main part the Japs work in batches of threes, three understanders juggling three partners on their legs. This framing breaks up frequently for twos and then one team alone. Single team displays snappy technique, with the one balancing himself on the legs of the others being put through a number of difficult routines.

Fast opener anywhere.

HAZEL MANJEAN GIRLS (4)
Dances, Tumbling
5 Mins.; Full
86th St.

Four girls who attract, but need more originality in their stage tricks. They open in white flannel beach pajamas for an ensemble tap and leave the stage for a blonde tapper who takes a white spot. After that they trot out in bathing suits of white and red for tumbling, cartwheels and somersaults.

No continuity to the stuff and although some of it is fast the routine doesn't impress except as opener for the inland neighbs. *Shan.*

LYONS and WATERMAN
Sidewalk Comedy
7 Mins.; One
RKO, Los Angeles

Strenuous mixed team with the femme the comedienne. Partner does comedy straight.

Familiar routine about the girl "seeing" an imaginary insultant and driving her partner nerts trying to make him comprehend.

Mebbe seasoning will do something for this combo. They have a certain flair for comedy delivery and can step, but lack professional sureness. *Abel.*

DEXTER WEBB and MERRILL
Banjos, Dance
6 Mins.; One
RKO, Los Angeles

Billed as "three collegiates," the two boys and girl are in bizarre sport get-ups. Boys strum banjos, girl steps.

Ordinary stuff, with the banjoists' specialty the "Rhapsody in Blue," becoming as ordinary as the "Poet and Peasant" for an instrumental overture.

Girl the best by far which comment'll probably ruin another trio. *Abel.*

R-K-O UNIT

(81st St.)

New York, May 1.

Without Ben Blue this RKO vaudeville unit would be comparable to "City Lights" without Chaplin or "Wonder Bar" without Jolson. That should start the ancient argument to the effect that it has Ben Blue, so what's the dif? The dif is that there are moments when Blue is not on the stage, others when he is on too long, with most of the moments not concerning this comedy dancer being below the RKO entertainment par as lately established with the four-acters.

This is the next-door stop from the cleaners for the production unit idea on the RKO road show route. It went through because it had been planned in advance, and there was no backing out for either side when it became too late. Max Gordon, producer of this unit, and Irving Yates, the stager, probably won't draw a profit from their efforts. That is as good an argument as any against the unit-produced idea.

When a producer goes to work on an hour of amusement with a $3,000 maximum weekly salary budget for salaries and everything else, he's limited. Had the amount spent on production work and background been used strictly for salaries, with better talent though less scenery procurable that way, and Blue relied on to close the show as an individual turn instead of in the middle of a flash act, it's unknown but easy to guess how much more solid entertainment could have been crammed into the same period for the same money.

Under the production idea, with an afterpiece to close, the bill starts and finishes with the same faces, a setback in the RKO unit policy's striving for variety classification. That it entertains in a small flashy way does not fully justify the departure from a policy that has proven itself successful and a return to a policy that long ago proved itself washed up.

This is not vaudeville. As entertainment it might, this once, slip by. As a profitable venture for the producers, it might be a loss instead, and as a moral promotion for the same producers it doesn't seem a good promoter. What can the producer of "Three's a Crowd" show on $3,000 that which he failed to show on $100,000 or more? And what can the Yates brother, who is acknowledged to be the most prolific producer of pop priced vaudeville flash acts today, do in this unit that he hasn't done and shown many times before?

It looks like a bad bargain most of the way around, with the only one likely to profit being Ben Blue. This comedian, in holding up the unit almost 100%, was vested with more reliance than any feature act on an RKO four-act unit thus far. It offered Blue a nifty chance to prove himself, and at the 81st Street break-in he did.

A flash called Lewis and Jones, Yates-produced, with the boy and girl team's name selected for the title, though not for merit reason, opens the bill. Members are the mixed couple, boy hoofing team, acrobatic sister team and four tall high kick girls. The four girls are the unusual quantity for vaudeville, with this type not common in variety. The rest is ordinary, despite constant enhancement from the scenery and staging. Again a set of steps for a stairs dance. If Yates continues with the steps in all his flashes, his acts won't be recognizable unless containing a flight. The RKO customers in the west must be tired of the Bill Robinson lift by now.

It took the show a long time to recover from the No. 2 spotter, singing girl, Martha Ray, with a man pianist. Miss Ray sang three numbers to little applause. She is a one-number girl who belongs in a company spot and not alone. A solo chance for Miss Ray was possible only through an attempt to stay on board on the nut, apparently, and just as harmful to the girl as to the unit.

What the producers suggested in the finale besides the scenery, costumes and supporting people, doesn't appear in the act. The idea couldn't be theirs, for Blue has used most of it himself, elsewhere. The afterpiece follows Blue's next-to-closing dance turn, which landed here as it generally does, and kept him on for half an hour or so all told.

In his next-to-shut turn Blue is now assisted by Mary Blue, the wife, and not bad as a looker or at foiling. In that "10 Cents a Dance" number, Mrs. Blue could have figured, the wife is a lot safer and a good idea, since the missus looks better than Blue's previous partners.

"King of Hokum" is the afterpiece's title. All members of the first turn and Miss Ray participate, plus Blue's three stooges. Much is punchy comedy, the rest good looking flash stuff and the result is satisfactory.

At the 81st the fifth act with the unit was Belle Bennett, from films, in a sketch (New Acts). "Laugh and Get Rich" (Radio), picture, and biz nearly capacity. *Bige.*

ACADEMY

Fanchon and Marco have dropped the word Idea from this show, calling it "Society Circus." If dropping the word can improve them as much as this one, it's a pip idea, as this unit is a pip.

It's laid in a circus atmosphere, has the girls doing all sorts of flashy tricks, from walking on high stilts, balancing on top of big balls, and for the finale they ride out on Shetland ponies, making the undersized horses do tricks and roll over. The unit is fast, well played and of course has a couple of pretty group pictures.

In the talent the Harris twins did some dancing in unison, taking the flip flops together, etc. Later on they join Rose Marie Carter in a trio adagio that was oke. Tabor and Greene, colored boys, did the comedy with a small piano and did not linger. Betty, Irene and Sylvia, petite misses, did toe work satisfactorily. The show played off in exactly 35 minutes, which is schedule.

Vaude portion of this Fox show consisted of four acts in Corinne's Stars of Yesterday, old-timers in a turn much similar to Dave Genaro's, current in vaude. They liked the old folks down there with applause thick and fast for every specialty. Hy Tom Ward almost stopped the proceedings with his extra high tenor voice.

Krugel and Robels, two-man comedy singing turn, got their share of laughs, although at times, due to standing back stage on account of Robels' total blindness, of which the audience is never tipped, their words were slightly muffled. The boys have powerful pipes and let 'em out, especially in an operatic comedy medley.

Harry and Frank Seamon are along in the path of all acrobats this season and have gone comedy, in which they fool around for laughs and only do two legitimate tricks. The acrobats say they can't get money any other way, but a straight acro turn right now would be a novelty in vaude. The boys do the head and foot in the pants and take socko falls.

Harriett Nawrott and boys offered some nifty roller skating by the Miss and one boy, while the other strives for laughs but misses thru too much stalling. The tricks are legitimate but have been seen before, including the foot-lock around the neck and the body for spins.

Arthur Holdstein, pit leader, announced his overture in a garbled voice undistinguishable, but the tunes were okay. Business at the Monday night show light. Picture "Quick Millions" (Fox).

STATE

Loew's State harbors a smart little bill this week. Runs a little overlong, even with one act cut for the four shows over Saturday and Sunday. Five acts ran to 75 minutes. Monday, when the schedule reverted to its weekday three-a-day, Don Cummings was added to the list of acts.

Spotting looks as though it can stand rearranging, which might have been done with Cummings in. Carl Shaw and Co. were the biggest bit and forced to take a three-minute encore when the screen was ready to be lowered. Shaw's act shouldn't close. Natural closer on the bill is Theo. Adolphus and Orchestra (New Acts), band.

Harry Rose is featured. Rose does nothing much and it's difficult to explain just what he does that puts him over so big. He works hard and is ever on the go, that dynamic manner pushing his material across and puts everything over for him. He's cut down a bit on his cross-stage running capers. That energy he has reserved for some aditional song numbers. For his encore Rose warbled "Broadway's Lullaby," a sob song about the main stem. Expected that Rose might gag it up or go off in a parody tangent, but he stuck to the straight delivery.

Carl Shaw and Co., who followed, got over in good style. Shaw's vitalic dancing is the act. The boy's dancing is sure-fire, comedy or straight. Assisisted by two boys and two girls. Both boys are also good hoofers, but along the familiar style. One girl features a solo kick specialty dance.

Kanasawa Troupe (New Acts) gave the bill a fast start. Jap turn with risley stunts of all sorts. Liked.

Two hot torch songstresses, Bernard and Henri, had hot pop numbers and special material. Special material is humorous ditties that please. Both are good warblers and harmonize nicely. It's the torch work that counts, and the girls know how to heat up their numbers.

Theo. Adolphus and Orch. (New Acts) just a fair band act with frequent stabs for laughs by Adolphus. This house liked it.

Metro's "Strangers May Kiss"

House packed for the first show Saturday, with standees rows deep during the vaude.

PALACE

(St. Vaude)

Big shoe, piano solo and Ed Wynn week, mostly Wynn, at the Palace.

The shoes and the piano soloists, all men and unbilled, are in thrice each and Wynn six times between the acts and finale, with Rosetta Duncan at the finish. It's almost strictly a Wynn show, that meaning show enough.

In a curtain speech at the end of the bill, when they wouldn't let him off nor go home, Wynn said it's his first time in vaudeville in 18 years and that the audience at the first show was paying for a dress rehearsal. It didn't look like a rehearsal to the Palace bunch. In their treatment and reception of the star comic, the house intimated the 18 years of Wynn's absence were 18 too many.

Straight vaudeville in its most remarkable days, when stars from all fields eventually fell in for a week or a route, could never entice Ed Wynn. For 18 years he's been in musical shows away from vaudeville, but strong enough outside to step back at any time he wished, now as much as ever. Such a record is unique in the show business, among comedians especially.

In his seven turns on this bill Wynn (New Acts) probably is on for 45 minutes. In one scene he uses a straight man and four girls—all Zieggies and an unusual eyeful for the Palace crowd. In the closer he doubles with Miss Duncan. At other times Wynn is alone, but not lonesome. Quite a guy.

Otherwise, what the Palace has this week the Palace has had before, some of it plenty, but all brought along this trip by Wynn's terrific between-the-acts pace making.

The oddly spotted first part opens with a full stage dancing act, Deno and Rochelle, and deuces with a juggler, Serge Flash, reversing the customary order but working out okay. The dance team, supported by Katheryn Black, blond kicker, and the first of the bill's three pianists, is now doing probably its best turn after a long series of standards in vaudeville. Their "Racketeer Dance," a smash exit number, is just the apache rewritten, but the modernized style helps it seem new. Plus the strenuous execution, this dance in selling the act in the opening spot on this show, suggested Deno and Rochelle might do as well in any other spot at the Palace or elsewhere.

That fast start led to Wynn's first appearance, the hand for Deno and Rochelle blending into the comic's reception and stopping the show before Wynn could speak. He went into a complicated yarn with nut stuff and magic on the side as an introduction for the deucer, the length of which would be murderous so early in average hands, and even slightly long for Wynn. Serge Flash was second in his regulation style, meaning over.

Wynn again, then "The Ingenues," girl orchestra of 20 with a specialty dancer tossed in. Their billing is "The Girl Paul Whitemans of Syncopation," and if that goes they shouldn't spell it Whitman. A display of instrument wielders rather than a musical aggregation, this combination of girls departs from the usual run. Beyond that, the mass formation of women and various instruments grows amazing as it progresses. From the start the group arrangement and doubling, tripling and quadrupling of the girls on many instruments, give the impression of lavish production expenditure. After a lot of striking flash, during which, toward the finish, the on-too-long defect crept in, the girls appear before the drapes in a drum and brass routine that's as stunning as it is noisy.

An instruction course in stage make-up for several of The Ingenues might be all that is needed to assure the producer he'll get his investment back. A good plug for an instrument manufacturer in the accordion number made the turn seem nonetheless expensive.

Peter Higgins had a cold, apparent before he announced it, so he stopped at three songs and an apology. That got him off all right, with the cold announcement needed to stop them asking for more. Higgins with a cold at the Palace is better, for the Palace, than no Higgins at all. He's been away for almost a year, perhaps, and so have the other Irish tenors. They used to rotate in stock formation here. If not John Thomas one week it would be another John, maybe Steele. The late scarcity probably is because there aren't many Higginses around. And where's Joe Regan?

The annunciators flashed "Intermission" at Higgins' exit, but Wynn in the drug store scene from "Simple Simon" was the nicest intermish the Palace has had in a long while. This is where the beauts came in, besides the same straight man who straighted for Bert Lahr last week. He's in a clean act currently.

Took Buster West and the dad a long time to get into the dancing in the intermission opener, and until then Buster didn't get to first. The dancing got him all around the bases and almost made the build-up worth sleeping through, but not quite.

Miss Duncan next-to-closed with

the same song turn she showed here a month or so ago, excepting one new song she couldn't wholly remember, but the result was as good as the first time. She retained her Topsy cork for the return with Wynn, sitting on his "pianocycle," a small piano on wheels, as Ruth Etting did in "Simon."

It was a surprise to see Wynn surpass in this finish everything he had accomplished earlier. For a view of a sock ending by a comedian who knows how to sock, get it.

Bige.

PALACE, CHICAGO

Chicago, May 2.

First impressions of vaude shows fortunately are not final verdicts. Which is a blessing, considering how many flash acts open shows and how many flashes, in turn, are opened by a tuxedoed juve stepping from the drapes and going into a wholly unrequired, unheard and unintelligible lyric.

Teddy Wren is the first to appear this week. He sings in a frog-throated monotone something about the Wallace Sisters being late. This time it's the bright original idea about the girls coming by airplane, using 300 feet of film to show the impending arrival, and finally the girls burst onto the stage through a convenient gap in the screen.

And so the show started like hundreds of other vaude shows have started. Probably nobody minded, since the Wallace girls are extremely comely. But still it might be nice sometime if a vaude producer found a new idea.

And why not a little more attention to details. If the Cohen Brothers must dress like ushers, why not let them represent RKO ushers instead of wearing the livery, epaulets, white vest, and all, of Publix?

Highlight of act is Wilma's (or is it Evelyn?) back and front kicks off her toes. Other sister gets uncertain and not too graceful support in a semi-adagio with one of the men.

After the opener there was, in order, Emil Boreo, William Gaxton, Miss Patricola and Jack McLallen. And they all played well. It was light, smart, clever and diversified vaude.

Boreo refrained from using his audience song, possibly having been informed that Gregory Ratoff has been doing the same sort of thing for the local Publix swing-around. Gaxton's sketch, authored by Leon Errol, is packed with laughs, with a couple off color.

Miss Patricola in the last Parisian style gasp (forever immune to Hackett hints) was comfortably herself in reception, results and giggles. McLallen has one of the smartest hoke melanges on the boards.

For those who stay to see the picture it's Paramount's "Gun Smoke."

Land.

LOEW'S ORPHEUM

Bill here the first half below par, but had no difficulty making the grade. Good response for every act.

Moran and Wiser (New Acts) shoved off with a pleasant hat-throwing routine. Peggy English, songstress, deuced. Voice and the girl went fair. Sounds as though she's more suited to torch stuff, which she omits almost entirely, featuring ballads. "Just a Gigolo" doesn't fit. "Rudy Vallee Blues" sounded like a special.

"Information" (New Acts), built like a sketch but more of a monologue, so-so comedy turn. Earl La Vere, comic accordionist, with the help of a male singer and uke player, was liked. La Vere's patter is strongest at the beginning and slides toward the finish. Goes in for plenty Scotch gags. Included are straight and comedy instrumentation and warbling, with the assist doing the tonsil work.

Elizabeth Morgan and Co. fair dance flash. Two boys, teamed, highlight of act with some good hoofing and a neat souse dance. Miss Morgan features dances with her male partner, doing exhibition ballroom and a tango.

Par's "Skippy," feature. Near capacity Monday night.

86TH ST.

Only 32 minutes of vaude in the three acts on the current weekly layout with "Cimarron" the film. Picture's length of 124 minutes necessitated the vaude cut. Bad weather Saturday change day may have hurt biz but that three-act stuff looks too shallow to support this overtime booking of "Cim" properly. At least one more act and the bill would have been better rounded. Plenty of room in the house at the first show Saturday.

Of the three acts only two are standard, without prior stage paying the vaude end looked ragged, although going over. That first turn, Hazel Manjean, four-girl troupe of acro dancers not sufficient lead a come-on for Don Zelaya, the piano player.

Conlin and Glass finaled in their usual hoke comedy and over with a couple of stooges for the "whoa" stuff instead of the stage crew.

Shan.

HIPPODROME

Biz immense at the big house Saturday afternoon, with the weather rainy and the picture "The Iron Man" (U). Nothing special in vaude names to attract, other than the billing of an eight-act show.

Charles Carrer opened the vaude. He's a juggler who shows that a southpaw can be just as quick on the one-hand stuff. He didn't overdo, which was in his favor. Crowell and Allan were second. They got nothing on their opening and seemed on the slide until Miss Crowell went into her tap dancing. This and the man's miniature piano specialty saved them. Act could stand reconstruction in the early section.

Frank and Warren Lassiter gave the show some needed speed with their comedy acrobatics and dancing. Their wrestling bit was an immediate laugh. Corking vaude pair.

Rassanna (New Acts) had a slow start and the act seemed to drag until she went aloft for her aerial work. Ross and Bennett picked up the comedy angle again and did well in spurts. Any time they hoked or roughed it the audience showed a decided preference.

An act that appeared made to order for the Hip was Don Azpiasu and his Havana Casino orchestra. The melodious rhythmic music was a relief from the usual slow syncopation.

Harry Burns and Co. had it easy with their Italian comedy hocus pocus. Burns and his wop style are a natural, although the comic is in need of a good finish. Burns keeps them laughing and then suddenly loses the comedy swing through the present weak finale.

Brenck's Golden Horse closed with Bela Dona directing the animal through his stage paces. Just few short minutes, but a pleasing sight as well as effective.

Mark.

RKO, L. A.

Los Angeles, May 1.

Unlike last week's show, when three of the four local acts were standard turns, all four of the locally booked quartet this week are strictly locals. Result is that its contrast with the regular RKO unit is very marked, showing up the four semi-pro turns for what they are.

Last week was an unusually happy blending of the eight acts which cannot be said for the current lineup.

Playing of the first four turns, Bob Orth Co.; Dexter, Webb and Merrill; Lyons and Waterman, and the Sailor Comedy Four (New Acts) was like Woolworth to Cartier's as regards the regular unit, comprising A. Robins, the international "walking music store"; Grette Ardine and Johnny Tyrrell Co.; Johnny Berkes and Vesta Wallace, and Al Gordon's Comedy Canines. This unit as a whole must rate on the RKO records as one of the circuit's crack combos.

Enthusiasm ran especially high for Robins' musical clowning and the Gordon dog turn. Latter was audibly voted the best act of its kind seen here and probably merits the extravagant local opinion. Gordon is a swell worker, handling the pooches in a free-and-easy manner. Turn actually is more comedy than canine, due solely to his clever chattering. No huzzah or hullaballo with the dergs; just a smooth, comedy sequence which almost stopped everything in the closing groove, similar to the memorable show-stopper this act was at the Palace, New York, in the ace spot.

Robins, with a wealth of new business and hokum, was next-to-shut, convulsing the natives with intricate props and ingenuous business.

Preceding was the Ardine-Tyrrell act with four people in support, male accompanist and femme trio, two of which are Gertrude and Helen Keeler, sister of Ruby, and not bad little tapsters on their own. One of the Keeler kids is over-inclined to avoirdupois.

Tyrrell is the mainstay of the act. He works like the proverbial Trojan and uncorks a fund of variety. Miss Ardine's stepping is okay as ever, with the rest along the same high calibre.

Johnny Berkes and Vesta Wallace work Altrahanish. Some substitutions, such as the biz with the axe instead of the shotgun, but the same general idea. Miss Wallace was Trahan's former partner. As a copy act it means nothing to the customers out here, getting its quota of laffs, although lacking the decisiveness of the original.

Secret of these shows out here has been their dash and snap. Eight acts in 71 minutes was last week's clock. Currently the octet of turns consume 80 minutes, considered sluggish in combo with the features and usual shorts.

Current units costs $3,100, augmented by $770 worth of local turns. Naturally there must be quite a difference between the four for the three grand and the four for $700-$800.

Apropos of this eight-act policy, the leveling of standards to approach an almost uniform mediocrity has been as much in general favor of the composite as it's uncomplimentary in the recounting. But it's no secret that the regular units look upon the coast weeks as a vacation. They've been called for sloughing their stuff time and again and both Cliff Work, the division head, and Bern Barnard, the local booker, have had occasion to bawl the acts for thinking it's a slumming party in this area.

Comics frankly express themselves opposed to airing any new gags or business around here. Probably dates back to those former Sunday nights at the local Orpheum when the studio gagmen were there with their pads and pencils copping the choicest nifties. Even now the comedians feel that they're too close to film funnies to make it healthy for the longevity of their comedy material.

All this has had a neutralizing effect and helped toward a pretty good blend of the local and imported act material some weeks. Actually, the contrast should be as marked as its is this week.

Abel.

JEFFERSON

The Jeff is playing "Cimarron" (Radio), which should spell business, but at the Saturday matinee there was no call for the ropes. Perhaps the short vaude show, three acts due to length of talker, had something to do with it. The 14th street crowd that haunts this house is educated to seven and eight.

Show was good entertainment, the three acts consuming 45 minutes. Ruiz, of Ruiz and Bonita has the male honors this half, against 10 women.

Two girls in his act did a rumba with snaky movements and the mob went for them with all the trimmings. The girls have nice figures. Ruiz and Bonita are class dancers and have placed their act within colorful settings, well lighted. A pianist and a girl played a solo and sang a pop tune. The song should come out.

Callahan and Cook, two girl comics, tall and short, romped through some new and fresh sounding dialog during which they referred to Hollywood and men. They have a funny bit in tossing their clothes out of suitcases. Comedy dancing is not so strong, neither is the finish of tap and the big gal riding the back of her partner for an exit.

Jerry and her Baby Grands, composed of Geraldine Valliere, Janet Rowland, Florence Shewell and Vera Waterhouse, lately returned from a world tour, delivered on four white baby grand pianos. Combined with the talent were electrical and lighting effects, quite novel.

A slight confliction between the pit band and the Jerry act came through the pit boys playing for the overture some American composers' tunes, including Victor Herbert and Gershwin, which the piano act closed the show with also.

DRAKE, CHICAGO

Chicago, April 30.

Spotted on the far northwest side of town, in a well-populated neighborhood, with no immediate competition, this big 1,700-seat house should be perched on the happy side of show business. About its biggest threat is the Publix-B. & K. Gateway, some blocks to the north, which has circused itself in all the surrounding territory.

On the day caught the Drake was celebrating its first anniversary, dishing out for its celebrants a double feature show composed of "Father's Son" (WB) and "Men Call It Love" (Metro), and an excellent six-act stage show booked in by the Tommy Sacco office.

This is the second stage bill for this house, the first having been on New Year's Eve. On this occasion stage show illustrates the notion of many local showmen of keeping living talent as strictly a novelty. They feel that stage shows regularly used in such neighborhood spots are impracticable, and lose their drawing power over a length of time.

From one o'clock in the afternoon house played to a continuous inner and outer lobby holdout, besides lining the folks up on the sidewalk in the evening. In fact, so great was the demand for tickets that the house ran out of pasteboards and had to send around to the Admiral to borrow some of theirs. This on the first daylight saving Sunday of the year. This business is not due to the pictures, since neither of them have meant such sensational trade, at least locally. Neither is it accountable to the double feature angle, since this house has flopped even with triple features.

Flocks of kids in at 15c for the bargain show, with the adult trade strong at the 40c top. This is a neighborhood in which they wheel the kids to the theatre and line up the sidewalks with baby buggies. Inside the house the temperamental youngsters interrupt the show occasionally with saxophone-like intonations. But the home folks here don't mind that. It's all part of the neighborhood.

Ralph Williams' band headed this hang-up neighborhood show. Williams is an NBC outfit, and has been spotted at the Southmoor hotel all winter, besides doing an occasional Sunday show for Sacco. Williams is zero as an m.c., but his band was satisfying. It's a small eight-piece group, with no outstanding distinction, and causes some surprise that NBC should pick it out for radio exploitation. Chick Thomas was the individual hit of the afternoon with his rookie routine. There's still the question of similarity between his act and Johnny Burke's, but Thomas has a copyright letter to show. Material is a cinch for laughs anywhere.

Daltons made good with their adagio work and their acrobatic posing. Janton Sisters look great and came through with a singing and dancing routine that was meat for this audience. Bonita Frede is a blues warbler who goes boop-boop-a-doop for the encore. Five Sons of Alabama are evidently an amalgamation of a trio and a double, both colored. Trio sings and the double dances, and everybody's happy, including the tariff payers. It was a good and sound stage show, set to please.

Stage shows like this will make good and increase in popularity.

After the demonstration of the ability of stage shows to bring 'em in away from the radio and the auto, it's set that this house will go more into the human idea.

CAPITOL, MONTREAL

(Continued from page 45)

double feature town, and the natives want plenty for their money.

Since the inception of the double feature program the Capitol has not had a losing week. The house, it is estimated, is netting $5,000 a week profit, after all charges, including the heavy home office charges, which are included as part of the nut. And that, for a white elephant which was losing $5,000 or more weekly may be called a terrific jump in the right direction.

This week the Capitol has "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court" (Fox) and "Don't Bet on Women" (Fox). House now has Gene Curtis, from New England, as manager.

ROXY, N. Y.

New York, May 1.

Good stage show this week. Surefire and fast entertainment while the projection machines are resting is enough to send them out of the theatre pleased. "Three Girls Lost" (Fox) is the picture.

Two presentation items lavish production totaling a running time of 46 minutes. This left room for a Mickey Mouse cartoon plus the customary newsreel.

No separate overture with Erno Rapee's mob right into "Symphony of Spring," the first stage unit and opening the show. Orchestra platform slips down for the first scene on the stage, a mixed chorus and some dancing, coming up again for more selections while the stage is being set for an ensuing scene, Patricia Bowmen and the ballet corps. Very good.

Third item in this sequence was the Roxyettes. A rainbow effect probably used here before.

Paul and Nino Ghezzi, called Les Ghezzis in vaude, were surefire, spotted next to closing in the second presentation, "Floating Fiesta."

Scene is the deck of a battleship, allowing plenty of room for dress and a shooting, flag-waving finale.

The Roxyettes work as sailors and the ballet corps as Spanish dancers. Captain Dohn opens juggling cannon-balls, gives way to Viola Philo, prima, and then the Rimacs over great in a fast series of dances, singles and doubles. Staging and lighting throughout unusually good.

Business at the second deluxe show Friday night a bit light.

Char.

ORIENTAL, CHICAGO

Chicago, May 1.

It's a Herschel Henlere dominated show this week. After a four-week spotting at the Chicago as conductor of the symphonic combination, Henlere steps back into his old eccentric pianist act and gives the current Paul Oscard exhibit a load of talent for laugh-getting.

Production itself nicely balanced with the label "Going to Town," for no relative reason at all slapped on it.

Show's opening brought on the Kyle mixed dancing troupe of six boys and six girls, to snap through a smartly conceived novelty number. Rogers and Wynne, standard tap dancing team, masqueraded as father and mother of younger hoofers scored best with tapping.

Walter Powell and his trombone clowning held them diverted for a few minutes with m. c. stepping in to play the straight on some mildly funny comedy. Better framed was the band's ensuing burlesque on the quartet from "Rigoletto."

Entrance, next, of Henlere in his goofy getup for his comedy inning at the piano. However, act could stand much cutting on the playing end.

During second half of the Oscard unit Henlere introduced his toy animal band, but the raggedness of the finale staging served to crimp its anticipated results.

"Kick In" (Clara Bow) on the screen.

MILLION DOLLAR, L.A.

Los Angeles, April 30.

Advertising six acts of vaude started with seven at the morning show but dwindled to five for the first evening show. Canning acts the opening day seems to be a general rule, theory being that if they don't go over they can easily be replaced by others.

As a whole the five-act bill was better than average for the house. Topping was a holdover from last week, Owen Fallon and his band of nine. Fallon's is a local combo until recently playing at the Cinderella roof, dance hall.

Band went over well and was forced to two encores, due chiefly to individual and group numbers by the band members.

Fallon learned to twiddle his stove pipe like Ted Lewis since last week. He sang a couple from that band leader's repertory, but Fallon is no Lewis, not even a good imitation.

Show was wrapped up by the Wranglers, cowboy quartet. Out here they go heavy for this sort of stuff over the radio. It's a kind of home pride affair. Boys sang three dirge-like numbers which scored.

Connie and Natalie, lookers in tap and toe stepping, put on an exceptionally classy performance. Paul Gordon, trick cyclist (at the RKO a fortnight ago) opened, and Kelly and Rowe, mixed team, were third with songs and chatter. Not so hot.

Feature, "Reaching for the Moon," plus a two-reel comedy and Paramount news.

House budgets $800 for the six acts average. RKO is spending over $700 for four acts, with seven and one-half weeks possible.

Meikeljohn & Dunn books the Million Dollar; RKO books direct through Bern Bernard.

CROWN, CHICAGO

Chicago, April 29.

That the local theatre owners are on the hunt for possible box-office boosters is demonstrated by the number of showmen who took the night off to see how this theatre got started with its stage talent idea by way of bathing beauty contest. Essaness theatres were represented by two execs and its publicity director, while Lou Reinheimer was present for the Midwest Booking circuit, besides a number of indie exhibs. That the theatre operators are thinking seriously of flesh is proved by the increasing number of exhibitors catching the showing nights at the Englewood.

What these men saw in the way of business at this theatre indicates that live talent is the old idea now again become new. Lobby hold outs 40 minutes before the beauts went into their strut.

Proves that the beaut contest is still oke as a novelty at least. Whether the contest idea of this sort can hold up more than five or six weeks is doubtful. Beaut parades have no intrinsic entertainment value; they are freak or novelty.

Al Bachman, manager of the theatre, has met the Weiboldt department stores half-way, getting a full set of beach pajamas for a credit line in the trailers. Weiboldt's showing poor judgment in delivering such cheap looking outfits; on sight value alone they're reverse ads. Other tie-ups include a "stage training course" to the winner of the contest, free face powder to all women patrons, and free photos to six winners in an audience lottery.

Whether lotteries and free powder, china or radios, come under the heading of a good show is still a question with many exhibitors.

Billy Weinberg has lined up 11 contestants and a femme accordion player. About six of these girls are Weinberg booked; the rest were obviously from behind the notions counter. Audience picked the winners by applause, which meant yelling, honking of auto horns and gallery comedy. For the summer doldrums the bathing idea may be an occasional h. o. hypodermic. It at least gives the audience a chance to look at lighted bulbs in the foots and a bit of life on the stage.

"Reducing" (M-G) and "Royal Family" (Par) were the screen aids to the entertainment.

NEW ACTS

Loomis Twins.

Morris and Campbell in "Apples," with Phil Silvers.

Lois Torres and Co. (6), Spanish dance act.

Margaret Schilling.

Handers and Millis Revue.

Five Juggling Aces.

Three Steppings Kings.

Dave Ferguson and Co.

Irwin and Ditson.

Sales and Lewis.

Jack Allens Banjoliers (14).

"Trip Around the World" (12).

Ralph Feilder and Co.

Hayden and Chester Revue.

Luckey Roberts, colored composer; Society Entertainers (band), Dewey Brown, Lena Sanford Roberts, Grace Smith, Lucky Seven Trio, Hartwell Cooke and George Cooper (28).

Variety Bills

NEXT WEEK (MAY 9)
THIS WEEK (MAY 2)

Numerals in connection with bills below indicate opening day of show, whether full or split week

RKO

NEW YORK CITY
Palace (9)
Harriett Hector
Hal Sherman
C Jackson & Dura'
Charles King
(Others to fill)
(2)
Deno & Rochelle
Serge Flash
Ingenues
Peter Higgins
Ed Wynn
Buster West
Rosita Duncan
Chester
1st half (9-12)
M Berle Co
Ted & A Waldman
Enos Frazere
2nd half (13-15)
Lee Twins
Ann Codee
(Two to fill)
2nd half (6-8)
W Delaney
Robinson & DeWitt
Don Galvin
Coliseum
1st half (9-12)
Carl Shaw
M Schilling
Chas Ahern
(Two to fill)
2nd half (13-15)
Vic Oliver
Dodge Twins
Sammy Cohen
(Two to fill)
(2)
The Christensens
Annie Judy & Zeke
Seed & Austin
86th St.
1st half (9-12)
Blanche Sweet Co
Nick Long Co
(Three to fill)
2nd half (13-15)
Ledova
Henry Bergman
Keller Sis & Lynch
(One to fill)
(2)
Mangean Girls
Zelaya
Conlin & Glass
Fordham
1st half (9-12)
Victor Moore
Honey Boys
(Three to fill)
2nd half (13-15)
Walter Walters
James Barton
(Three to fill)
(2)
Enos Frazere
Morris & Campbell
The Little Revue
Franklin
1st half (9-12)
Joe Mendi
2 Rozellas
F DeVoe Co
3 Rio Bros
Burns & Kaye
Lovejoy Dancers
2nd half (13-15)
DeBee & Hudson
Green & Bess
F D'Armore
Adler & Bradford
Milo
Pillard & Hillard
(2)
Tinova Baikoff Co
Packer & Hall
Kramer & Boyle
Hippodrome (9)
Bentell & Gould
Caligary Bros
Ada Brown
Ferry Corway
Royal
1st half (9-12)
DuFor & Faust
Ross & Davis
Joe Howard
Zelaya
Doc Baker Co
2nd half (13-15)
Gannon & Perez
Farfariello
Chain & Hooper
Jole & J Walton
Sam Hearn
G Thomas Circus
(2)
Vogues of 1931
Buddy Walker
Parks & Morton
BROOKLYN, N. Y.
Albee (9)
Lassiter Bros
Harry Burns
Ingenues
(One to fill)
(2)
Liazeed Arabs
Birnes & Kaye
B Bennett Co
Milton Berle
Milton Berle Co
Flushing
1st half (9-12)
Jim McDonald
Ledova
Rosita Duncan
(Two to fill)
2nd half (13-15)
Victor Moore
M Schilling
Chas Ahern Tr
(Two to fill)
(2)
Daro & Costa Rev
Bobby Folsom
Hal Sherman
Kenmore
1st half (9-12)
Pat Rooney & Jr
Lois Torres Co
(Two to fill)
2nd half (13-15)
Ted & Al Waldman
Peter Higgins
(Two to fill)
(2)
Ann Codee
Jack North
Lee Twins
Madison
1st half (9-12)
Lee Twins
Ann Codee
(Two to fill)
2nd half (13-15)
Don Azpiaza Bd
Enos Frazere
Ray & Harrison
(One to fill)
(2)
Lewis & Altee
Martha Raye
Ben Blue
Kingdom for Sale
AKRON, OHIO
Palace (9)
Chaney & Fox
Paul Mall
Eddie Stanley
Youngsters of Y't'y
(2)
8 Ft of Rhythm
Furman S'y & L'ne
Pepito
Puck & White
ALBANY, N. Y.
Keith's
1st half (9-12)
France & LaPelle
Maidie & Ray
Eddie White
Drug Store C'boys
2nd half (13-15)
Reynolds & White
Callahan & Cook
Sue Russell Co
Odiva
Herb Williams Co
Yong Kam Tr
(2)
Chas Carrer
Crowell & Allen
Lassiter Bros
Rassano
Don Azpiazu Bd
Harry Burns Co
Brenks & B' Donna
Ross & Bennett
Jefferson
1st half (9-12)
4 Robeys
Madeline Patrice
Chas Wilson
Jack Donnelly Co
Marks & Morton
Walter Walters
Milo
Don Azpiazu Bd
2nd half (13-15)
Van Horn & Inez
Miller & Keller
Drug Store C'boys
Mae Usher
Nord & Jeannie
Petite Rev
Zelaya
Van DeVelde
(2)
Ruiz & Bonita
Callahan & Cook
Jerry & B' Grands
Leavitt & L'kwood
2nd half (6-8)
Davis & Glass
5 Hot Shots
Mae Usher
F Ardath Co
ATLANTA, GA.
Keith's (9)
McCann Sis
Les Gellis
Gloria Foy
Lang & Haley
(2)
Wilfred DuBois
Lubin Larry & An'
Impromptu Rev
Hal Jerome
BOSTON, MASS.
Keith's (9)
Victoria & Lorenz
Morgan & Stone
Casa & Lehn Co
Dr Rockwell
The Merediths
(2)
Bud & F Craig
Kirby & Duval
Blanche Sweet
Violet Carlson
Signor Friscoe Bd
BUFFALO, N. Y.
Hippodrome (9)
McDonald 3
Billy Glason
Gus Edwards' Co
(2)
Lamont 4
Senna & Dean
Wilton & Weber
Count Bernivici
CEDAR RP'DS., IA.
Keith's
1st half (9-12)
Phyllis Rae & 8
Gracie Barrie
Stone & Lee
2nd half (13-15)
Geo Libby Co
O'Brien & Hewett
Joe Marks Co
2nd half (6-8)
Samaroff & Sonia
Fields & Georgie
Our Gang Kids
CHICAGO, ILL.
Palace (9)
Aussie & Czeck
Lytell & Fant
Peggy H Joyce
Britt Wood
White & Manning
(2)
Wallace Sis
Boreo
Wm Gaxton Co
Patricola
McLellan & Sarah
CINCINNATI, O.
Keith's (9)
Elton Rich Co
Ward & Van
Joe Besser Co
Harry Richman
(2)
Aussie & Czeck
Lytell & Fant
Peggy H Joyce
Britt Wood
White & Manning
CLEVELAND, O.
Palace (9)
Wallace Sis
Boreo
Wm Gaxton Co
Patricola
McLallen & Sarah
(2)
Roye & Maye
Wm & Joe Mandell
Roxy's Gang
Sylvia Clark
Kay Kyser
105th St. (9)
Zelda Bros
Frank Conville
Carrying On
Burns & Allen
Chaney & Fox
Paul Mall
Eddie Stanley
Youngsters of Y't'y
DALLAS, TEXAS
Keith's (9)
Brad' C'am, VanA'
Ashley Pagio
Clifford & Marion
Melody Parade
(2)
Falls Reading & B'
M'sh'l Montgomery
Wilton Sis
Johnny Burke
DAVENPORT, IA.
Orpheum
1st half (9-12)
Samaroff & Sonia
Fields & Georgie
Our Gang Kids
2nd half (13-15)
Phyllis Rae 8
Gracie Barrie
Stone & Lee
2nd half (6-8)
3 Rhythm Girls
Frances & Wally
Bomby Gang
DES MOINES, IA.
Orpheum
1st half (9-12)
Geo Libby Co
O'Brien & Hewett
Joe Marks & Co
2nd half (13-15)
Tommy Evans Co
Melino & Davis
J Herbert's Rev
2nd half (6-8)
Phyllis Rae 8
Gracie Barrie
Stone & Lee
FT. WORTH, TEX.
Keith's (9)
Olympia P' Win's
Murray & Allen
Jane & Kath Lee
Al K Hall
(2)
Brad' C'am, VanA'
Ashley Paige
Clifford & Marion
Melody Parade
HOUSTON, TEXAS
Keith's (9)
C Blossom & June
Bobby May
Yorke & King
(2)
Large & Morgner
Victor Oliver
Joe Besser Co
Ross Wyse Jr
IND'APOLIS, IND.
Lyric (9)
Forum Boys
Flo Lewis
Jack Usher Co
Bob Robison
Colleano Fam
(2)
Chappelle & C'lton
Geraldine & Joe
Milton Byron Co
Radio Texans
Dick Henderson
Art Henry Co
KANSAS CY., MO.
Keith's (9)
N Arnaut & Bros
F & Jean Hubert
Tom & R Romaine
Georgie Price
(2)
Gilbert Bros
Jean Boydell
Bud Harris
Art Frank Co
LINCOLN, NEB.
Stuart (9)
Bomby Gang
Francis & Wally
(2)
Whitey & Ed Ford
N Lockford Co
LOS A'G'L'S, CAL.
Keith's (9)
6 Lucky Boys
Carlena Diamond
Lewis & Moore
Barry & Whitledge
(2)
Gordon's Dogs
Berkes & Wallace
Ardine & Tyrell
A Robbins
LOUISVILLE, KY.
Keith's (9)
Chappelle & C'lton
3 Shades of Brown
Mary Haynes
H Timberg Co
(2)
F D'Amore
Bob Robison
H Bergman Co
Flo Lewis
Ward & Van
Stanley Twins
MADISON, WIS.
Orpheum
1st half (9-12)
C'leton & Ballew
Jack & K Spangler
2nd half (13-15)
Saul Freed 4
Beb Albright
2nd half (6-8)
H Delmar's Rev
MEMPHIS, TENN.
Orpheum (9)
Large & Morgner
Faber & Wales
Lane Osborn & C'o
Chamberlin & H'es
(2)
J & B Cavanaugh
Yorke & Johnson
Marty May Rev
MILWAUK'E, WIS.
Riverside (9)
Day in the Alps
Barbarina & Pal
Mack & Stanton
Kafka Stan' & May
Harry F Welch
Vanessi
Burns & Kissen
Tommy McAuliffe
(2)
Chas Riley
Dawn Sis
Lewis & Blake
D Bush & Bd
Wilson Kep'l & B'
El Cleve
Wm Edmunds Co
Ray Samuels
MIN'POLIS, MINN.
Keith's (9)
Wilson Kep'le & B'
El Cleve
Wm Edmunds Co
Rae Samuels
(2)
Robbins 3
Nash & Fately
Olsen & Johnson
NASHV'LE, TENN.
Keith's (9)
J & B Cavanaugh
Yorke & Johnson
Marty May Rev
(2)
3 Shades of Brown
Jack Usher Co
Mary Haynes
Colleano Fam
NEWARK, N. J.
Keith's (9)
Mangean Girls
Violet Carlson
Rimacs
(Two to fill)
(2)
Ford & Price
Roy Rogers
Charles Withers
Roscoe Ails & W'te
Ruddell & Dunigan
N. ORLEANS, LA.
Keith's (9)
Agemos
Irving Edwards Co
(Two to fill)
(2)
McCann Sis
Les Gellis
Gloria Foy
Lange & Haley
OAKLAND, CAL.
Orpheum (9)
The Tanzolas
Foster, Fagan & C'
Edgar Bergen
Ken Murray Co
(2)
6 Lucky Boys
Carlena Diamond
Lewis & Moore
Barry & W'tledge
OKLA. CY., OKLA.
Liberty (9)
Kikutas Japs
Millard & Marlin
N Gallo & P Tisen
Joe Browning
(2)
Olympia Prizes
Murray & Allen
Jane & Kath Lee
Al K Hall
OMAHA, NEB.
Orpheum (9)
Bert Nagle Co
DeVito & Denny
Joseph Regan
4 Ortons
(2)
Nellie Arnaut
Fritz & J Hubert
Tom & R Romaine
Geo Price
G Thalero Gang
Bee Sarche
Mack & Stanton
Hubert Dyer Co
PATERSON, N. J.
Keith's
1st half (9-12)
Kirby & Duval
Rin Tin Tin
Pillard & Hillard
2nd half (13-15)
Worthy & T'mpson
F DeVoe Co
A & M Havel
Roy Sedley Co
Harry Kahne
2nd half (6-8)
Goody, O' & Smith
Renard & West
Chas King Co
Eddie Pardo Co
Nick Long Jr Co
PORTLAND, ORE.
Orpheum (9)
Paul Kirkland
Jean & H Kennedy
Joe Termini
White & Morton
The Two Zaros
3 Jays
McCormick & W'ce
3 Phantoms
(2)
James Evans Co
Donovan Girls & B'
Weaver Bros & E'
Home Folks
Tyler & St Claire
Mantell's Man'kins
L' Mason & Sonny
3 Silvers
ROCHESTER, N.Y.
Keith's (9)
Edler & Reed Bros
Phil Rich
Marion Sunshine
Larry Rich Co
(2)
Zelda Bros
Frank Conville
Carrying On
Burns & Allen
ROCKFORD, ILL.
Palace (9)
H Delmar's Rev
Carleton & Ballew
Jack & K Spangler
(2)
Geo Libby Co
O'Brien & Hewett
Joe Marks Co
S'LT LAKE, UTAH
Orpheum (9)
Audrey Wycoff
Galli Rini & Sis
Billy Kelly Co
3 Swifts
(2)
Bert Nagle Co
DeVito & Denny
Josephy Regan
4 Ortons
SAN A'TON', TEX.
Keith's (9)
Falls, Read' & B'ce
M'sh'l Montgomery
Wilton Sis
Johnny Burke
(2)
C Blossom & June
Bobby May
Yorke & King
SAN FR'SCO, CAL.
Golden Gate (9)
Homer Romaine
Major Sharp & M'r
Joe May & Dotty
Dave Apollon
(2)
The Tanzolas
Foster Fagan & C'
Ben Blue
Kingdom for Sale
(2)
Edler & Reed Bros
Phil Rich
Marion Sunshine
Larry Rich Co
TACOMA, WASH.
Keith's (9)
Pasquali Bros
Fox & Curtis
Small Bros & H's
Evans & Mayer
(2)
Paul Kirkland
Kennedy Sis
Joe Termini
White & Morton
2 Zaros
3 Jays
McCormick & W'ce
3 Phantoms
TOLEDO, OHIO
Keith's (9)
8 Ft of Rhythm
Furman S'key, L'ne
Pepito
Puck & White
(2)
Kafka, Stan' & Mae
Talent & Merit
Vanessi
Burns & Kissen
Barbarino & Pal
Nixon & Sons
Cropley & Violet
Tommy McAuliffe
TORONTO, CAN.
Hippodrome (9)
Lamont 4
Senna & Dean
Wilton & Weber
Count Bernivici
(2)
Crystal 3
Worthy & T'mpson
Sammy Cohen
Frances White
Leavitt & L'kwood
VANCOUVER, B.C.
Keith's (9)
Gaudsmith Bros
Venita Gould
Bobby Pinkus
Jack Sidney Co
(2)
The DeToregos
Sidney Page
Aunt Jemima
Michon Bros
WINNIPEG, CAN.
Capitol (9)
Marion Wilkins
Walter Dare Wahl
Giersdorf Sis
Trixie Friganza
(2)
Betty Jane Cooper
Lathrop Bros
Medley & Duprey
Cardini
Chas Foy Co
YONKERS, N. Y.
Keith's
1st half (9-12)
Van Horn & Inez
Rudell & Donegan
Lucky Roberts Co
Nord & Jeanie
Petite Rev

MARK LEDDY
SEZ
WALTER POWELL
IS ORIGINAL
Now ORIENTAL, Chicago, Ill.

RHYTHM RICHLY
Blended with Comedy and there you have
JACK POWELL
Dir.: LEDDY & SMITH

OFFICIAL DENTIST TO THE N. V. A.
DR. JULIAN SIEGEL
1560 BROADWAY
This Week: Runaway 4; Joe Schrode

Edgar Bergen
Ken Murray Co
Mari O'Sweeney
Jellybean Johnson
Bert & H Skatelle
Hollywood Boulev's
SEATTLE, WASH.
New Orpheum (9)
The DeToregos
Sidney Page
Aunt Jemima
Joe & Pete Michon
(2)
Pasquali Bros
Fox & Curtis
Small Bros & H's
Evans & Mayer
SIOUX CITY, IA.
Keith's
1st half (9-12)
Gus Thalero Gang
Hubert Dyer Co
Tommy Evans Co
Melino & Davis
Joe Herbert's Rev
SO. BEND, IND.
Palace
1st half (9-12)
Saul Freed 4
Bob Albright Co
2nd half (13-15)
Roye & Maye Rev
Fortinello & Ciril'o
Art Henry Co
2nd half (6-8)
Carleton & Ballew
Jack & K Spangler
ST. LOUIS, MO.
Keith's (9)
Gilbert Bros
Jean Boydell
Harris & Van
Art Frank Co
(2)
5 Jewels
Roxy LaRocca
W & G Ahearn
Ann Seymour
Diamond Boys
ST. PAUL, MINN.
Orpheum (9)
Robbins 3
Nash & Fately
Olsen & Johnson
(2)
M Wilkins Co
Walter Dare Wahl
Giersdorf Sis
Trixie Friganza
SYRACUSE, N. Y.
Keith's (9)
Lewis & Altee
Martha Ray
2nd half (13-15)
Nelson's Catland
Don Galvin
Nate Busby Co
H Carroll's Rev
(2)
Chinese Collegians
YOUNGSTOWN, O.
Keith's (9)
Lang Bros Co
Dick Henderson
Roxy's Gang
Sylvia Clark
Wm & Joe Mandell
(2)
McDonald 3
3 Rhythm Dancers
Billy Glason
Gus Edwards Co

EXCLUSIVELY DESIGNED GARMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN
BEN ROCKE
1632 B'way, at 50th St., N. Y. City

Loew

NEW YORK CITY
Boulevard
1st half (9-12)
Doris Birton Co
Don Galvin
Albertina Rasch Co
(Two to fill)
BROOKLYN, N. Y.
Gates Ave.
1st half (9-12)
Irving's Flappers
Morris & Evans
Vercell Sis
2d half (13-15)
Ford & Price
Peggy English Co
LaMarr & Boice
Herbert Fay Co
Lee Lee Lee & Lee
National
1st half (9-12)
Billy Morell 4
Hector & Pals
Joyner & Foster
Tracey & Hay Co
(One to fill)
2d half (13-15)
Handers & Millis
Cookie Bowers
Young China
(Two to fill)
Orpheum
1st half (9-12)
Maxine & Bobby
Johnny Barry Co
Corinne Tilton
Signor Friscoe Or
(One to fill)
2d half (13-15)
Eno Tr
Bernard & Henri
Naomi Morton Co
Joe Darcey Co
Vercell Sis Co
Paradise (9)
Irving Aaronson Co
State (9)
J & M Mason
Nina M McKinney
Jay C Flippen Co
Moran & Wiser
Thompson & Kemp
Cookie Bowers
Earle Faber Co
Eliz Morgan Co
2d half (13-15)
Doris Girton Co
Joe Pope Jones
Emily Darrell
Eddie Pardo Co
Buster Shaver Rev
46th St.
1st half (9-12)
McDonald & P
Peggy English Co
LaMarr & Boice
Joe Darcey Co
Young China
2d half (13-15)
Hamilton Sis & F
Earle Faber Co
Alexand'r & Santos
(Two to fill)
Metropolitan (9)
Seabury & Girls
Carita Co
In a Pullman Car
Stan Kavanaugh
F & M Britton Co
Pitkin
1st half (9-12)
Kanazawa Tr
Yates & Lawley
A & M Havel
Dave Vine
Southern Galeties
2d half (13-15)
Texas Guinan Gang
Valencia (9)
Parisian Red H'ds
Hilton & Almy
H Girard's Ens
Bee Starr
Tiffany 2
ASTORIA, L. I.
Triboro
1st half (9-12)
Ben Dova Co
Harris & Frankie
Dave Harris Co
Harry Rose
Kitchen Pirates
2d half (13-15)
Lucille Sis
O'Neil & Manners
Rooney & Pat 3d
Kanazawa Tr
(One to fill)
BALTIMORE, MD.
Loew's (9)
3 Gobs
Borah Minnevitch
BAY RIDGE, L. I.
Loew's
1st half (9-12)
Lee Lee Lee & Lee
Eddie Pardo Co
Philco Harmonists
(Two to fill)
2d half (13-15)
Moran & Wiser
Cook Sis
Jack Merlin
Morris & Evans
Eliz Morgan Co
BOSTON, MASS.
Loew's (9)
Stanley Bros & A
Al Abbott
John Barton Co
Jans & Whalen
Bosch Radio Bd
BUFFALO, N. Y.
Loew's (9)
Willie Mauss
Maxine Lewis
Lewis & Ames
Amerique & N'ville
Runaway 4
CLEVELAND, O.
Granada (9)
Castleton M & O
Cecil Graham
4 Kemmys
COLUMBUS, O.
Bert Frohman
Wilbur Hall
D & E Barstow
Vivian Fay
J'RS'Y CITY, N. J.
Loew's (9)
Dolores Eddy & D
Mitchell & Durant
Louis Barrison
Silvia Nelson
Aileen Clark
2 White Flashes
Skating Bear
Martha Claire
SYRACUSE, N. Y.
Loew's (9)
Jack Benny
Marie Marsh
Evelyn Wilson
Billy Rolls
Ade Du Val Co
W'SHINGT'N, D.C.
Palace (9)
Caits Bros
Chris Charlton
Sol Gould Co
Kay Hamlin & K
(One to fill)
YONKERS, N. Y.
Loew's
1st half (9-12)
R Olsen & Girls
Jack Merlin
Crane & Earle
Purple East
(One to fill)
2d half (13-15)
Dare & Yates
Tracey & Hay Co
Corinne Tilton
Harris & Frankie
Dave Harris Co

SIDNEY PAGE
MAY 8
SEATTLE, WASH.
Personal Dir. O. L. OZ

Picture Theatres

NEW YORK CITY
Capitol (1)
"Bag of Blues"
Irving Aaronson
Stanley & Sax
Christine Mason
Hale Ens
"Secret Six"
Paramount (1)
"Contrasts
Shaw & Lee
Charlie Davis Co
Rome & Dunn
Ray Ellis & La Rue
Goss & Barrows
Sanford & Martin
"Ladies' Man"
Roxy (1)
"Floating Fiesta"
P & N Ghezzi
Viola Philo
The Rimacs
Captain Dunn
"3 Girls Lost"
CHICAGO, ILL.
Chicago (8)
"Imagine My Em"
J & D O'Gorman
Sammy Krevoff
Al Lateli
Babe Kane
Bines Girls
"Daybreak"
(1)
'Vagabond Trails'
Kuznetsoff Tr
Christy & Nelson
Miachua
3 R's
Marjorie McConig'l
Paradise (8)
'Stop Look Listen'
Al Kvale Bd
Fred Keating
Joseph Griffin
Hatt & Herman
Lambert Ballet
"City Lights"
Tivoli (8)
"Revue Russe"
Gregory Ratoff
L & F Berkhoff
Stetson
Berkhoff Girls
"City Lights"
Uptown (8)
"Goin' to Town"
Mark Fisher Bd
Herschel Henlere
Walter Powell
Rogers & Wynn
Tyle Boys & Girls
"City Lights"
BOSTON, MASS.
Metropolitan (8)
"Rhythm Queens"
Helen Lewis Bd
Clyde Hager
4 Michel Girls
Buddy Howe
Bernice Stone
(1)
"Paradise Isle"
Buck & Bubbles
Robins & Hood
Haines 2
Evans Bines Tr
BROOKLYN, N. Y.
Paramount (8)
Buddy Rogers U
(1)
'Hot from Harlem'
Bill Robinson
Cab Calloway Orch
Ada Ward
Alma Smith
John Mason
Rutley Dandridge
BUFFALO, N. Y.
Hippodrome (1)
Count Berni Vici
14 Symphonic Girls
Wilton & Weber
Seena & Dean
A & S Lamont
"The Prodigal"
Shea's (8)
'Down Came McG'
(1)
"Oh Lester"
Lester Allen
Teddy Joyce
Wayburn's Co
Pat Lane
3 Cressos
Mayo & Marie
Ginger Kennedy
Floris Vestoff
CLEVELAND, O.
State (1)
Ted Lewis Co
Eleanor Brooks
Bachelor 4
Chas Whittier
Maurice & Nova
'It's a Wise Child'
DETROIT, MICH.
Fisher (1)
'So This Is Spring'
Bob Nolan
Wayburn Co
"Stepping Out"
Fox (1)
"Love Letters"
Ruth Etting
Jerry Coe
Nelson & Wright
Jeanne Duveraeux
French's Girls
Reynolds & Stencel
Phil Lampkin
Mastbaum (8)
"Westward Ho"
Riley's Son Geo
Queen Queen & Q'n
Calif Rangers
Carlton Emmy
Lucille Peterson
Markert Co
(1)
"Porce'ain & Jade"
Benny Ross
Valentine Vox
Emily Walters
Douglas Stanbury
Maureen & Sonny
Larry Adler
Dorothy South
Bourman Co
IND'POLIS, IND.
Indiana (8)
"Porcelain & Jade"
Benny Ross
Valentine Vox
Emily Walters
Douglas Stanbury
Maureen & Sonny
Larry Adler
Dorothy South
Bourman Co
(1)
"Cupid's Carnival
Charlie Hill
Tommy Wonder
Anna Chang
Bernice & Emily
Foster Co
J'RS'Y CITY, N. J.
Stanley (8)
"Sweethearts"
(1)
'Wing'g W'y H'me'
Webb & Douglas
Sylvia Froos
Conrad's Pigeons
3 Allison Sis
Mary Read Co
MIN'POLIS, MINN.
Minnesota (8)
"Vagabond Trails"
Kuznetsoff Tr
Christy & Nelson
Miachua
3 R's
Marj'rie McGonigal
(1)
"Illustrations"
Frank Gaby Co
Llora Hoffman
Stanley Bros
Foster Tr
NEWARK, N. J.
Branford (8)
"Parlor Sports"
Lulu McConnell
Charles Davis
Fields Smith & F
Raymond Baird
Berke Girls
(1)
'Wing'g W'y H'me'
Webb & Douglas
Sylvia Froos
Conrad's Pigeons
3 Allison Sis
Mary Read Co
NEW HAVEN, CT.
Paramount (8)
'Venet'n Seren'ders'
Bayes & Speck
Bobby Gilbert
Therrini Henry
5 Yellow Jackets
Zita Rosso
Markert Co
(1)
"Rhythm Queens"
Helen Lewis Bd
Clyde Hager
4 Michel Girls
Buddy Howe
Bernice Stone
PHILADELPHIA
Earle (1)
Lis Torres Co
Eddie Miller
Hunter & Percival
Verron Rathburn
Eddie White
M & A Skelly
P Rooney & Pat Jr
Meehan's Canines
"Sin Ship"
Mastbaum (8)
'Wing'g W'y H'me'
Webb & Douglas
Sylvia Froos
Conrad's Pigeons
3 Allison Sis
Mary Read Co
(1)
'Carnival of Youth'
Charlie Hill
Tommy Wonder
Anna Chang
Bernice & Emily
Foster Tr
PITTSBURGH, PA.
Enright (1)
Brian McDonald
Joe Penner
Peggy Bernier
"The Millionaire"
Penn (1)
"On Your Toes"
Bert Frohman
Wilbur Hall
Vivian Faye
D & E Barstow
Bert Faye
"Shipmates"
Stanley (8)
"Oh Lester"
Lester Allen
Teddy Joyce
Wayburn's Co
Pat Lane
3 Cressos
Mayo & Marie
Ginger Kennedy
Floris Vestoff
(1)
"Westward Ho"
Riley's Son Geo
Queen Queen & Q'n
Calif Rangers
Carlton Emmy
Lucille Peterson
Markert Co
ST. LOUIS, MO.
Ambassador (8)
"Cupid's Carnival"
Charlie Hill
Tommy Wonder
Anna Chang
Bernice & Emily
Foster Co
(1)
"Imagine My Em"
D & J O'Gorman
Stanley Bros
Alfred Lateli
TORONTO, CAN.
Imperial (8)
"Horace Heidt Co"
(1)
"Down Came McG"
MONTREAL, CAN.
Loew's (9)
Luster Bros
Alton & Wilson
Eileen Dougal Co
Harmon & Sands
O'Donnell & Blair
NEWARK, N. J.
Loew's (9)
A & G Falls
Edith Bow Co
Bert Gordon Co
Living Jewels
P'L'S'D'S P'K, N.J.
Loew's (9)
George Everett
Mazzola 3
Martell Bros
Diaz & Powers
PITTSBURGH, PA.
Loew's (9)
Al Wohlman
Felovis
Fred Sanborn
J & M Jennings
Warren Harriman
Cecilia Blair
Hite Kenny & C
ROCH'ST'R, N. Y.
Loew's (9)
Ted Claire
Jack Powell

EDDIE STANLEY
Still M.C'ing
" Next-to-Closing
" Getting Laughs
" Working

Fanchon & Marco

NEW YORK CITY
Academy
1st half (8-11)
"The Dance" I
Everett Sanderson
Arnold Grazer
Lee Murray
Patsy Boland
Dave Robel
Sunkist Beauties
Audubon
2d half (12-14)
"The Dance" I
Everett Sanderson
Arnold Grazer
Lee Murray
Patsy Boland
Dave Robel
Sunkist Ens
ATLANTA, GA.
Fox (8)
"Espanola" I
J & H Griffith
Harry Vernon
Mayo & Caruso
Mae Packer
Abbey Green
Sunkist Ens
BRIDGEP'RT, CT.
Fox Poli (8)
"Icy Hot" I
Blomb'rg's Al'sk'ns
3 LeGrohs
Heras & Wallace
Helen MacFarland
Sunkist Ens
BROOKLYN, N. Y.
Fox (8)
"Topical Tunes" I
Gayl Bert & Daro
Ferdna
Eva Nightingale
Sunkist Ens
NEW HAVEN, CT.
Palace (8)
'Vaudeville Echoes'
B "Uke" Henshaw
Allison Tr
4 O'Connors
E & J Rooney
Doreen Rae
N. ORLEANS, LA.
Loew's State (8)
"Enchantment" I
Jue Feng
3 Mayakos
Sensational Togo
Jack Lester
Sanami Co
Sunkist Ens
N'G'RA F'LS, N. Y.
Fox Strand (8)
"Love Letters" I
Jerry Coe
Nelson & Knight
Jeanne Devereaux
French's Co
George Ward
Reynolds & Stencel
Sunkist Co
OAKLAND, CAL.
Oakland (7)
"Russian Art"
Bill Telaak
Bud Hanley
Olga & Michka
Walters 2
Mecha Bessoff Or

SULLY and THOMAS
HEADLINING Fanchon & Marco's "VARIETIES" IDEA

Coscia & Verdie
Alexander Sis
Niles Marsh
B & E Burroff
Carroll & Thomas
Sunkist Ens
DETROIT, MICH.
Fox (8)
"Golden West" I
H & B Hutchins
Bee Ho Gray Co
Ch'f Eagle Feather
Valerie Wade
Jimmy Ames
Albertina Rasch Co
FRESNO, CALIF.
Wilson
1st half (7-9)
"Great Raymond"
Bernie V & W
Sunkist Beauties
HARTFORD, CT.
Capitol (8)
"Prosperity" I
Lucille Page
Jack LaVier
Fanny Beck
Aaron Sis
Harris & Daniels
Sunkist Ens
H'LYW'D, CALIF.
Pantages (7)
"N S E W"
Waldron & Harr'tt
Gabriel Soloduhin
Russian Ens
Eddie Kube
Vasil Vania
PHILADELPHIA
Fox (8)
'Society Circus' I
Harris 2
Max Gang
Petty Irene & S
Rose Marie Carter
Wooding's Half Pts
Sunkist Beauties
PORTLAND, ORE.
Paramount (8)
"Olympic Games"
Paul Remos
Hal Haig
Francia
Sunkist Ens
SAN DIEGO, CAL.
Fox (7)
"Sketches" I
Allan & Canfield
Angelo Andre & S
Limb'r'gs Ed'wrds
Royal Cascoygnes
Sunkist Ens
S'N F'RISCO, CAL.
Warfield (7)
"Varieties" I
Norman Thomas 5
Flying Flemings
Baker Dove & A

JUST COMPLETED
(2) SEASONS (2)
WITH EARL CARROLL'S
"SKETCH BOOK"
GRACE DU FAYE
Dir.: LEDDY & SMITH

Glen Dale
Elvira Tanzi
Sunkist Ens
HOUSTON, TEX.
Loew's (8)
"Doll Follies" I
Les Klicks
LaSalle & Mack
Doyle & Donnelly
Ramon & Virginia
Roy Leonis Ens
JOLIET, ILL.
Rialto (8)
"Talent" I
Harry Savoy
Geo P Wilson
Adele Beers
Jeanne Carr
6 Marinelli Girls
Gaynor & Byron
MEMPHIS, TENN.
Loew's State (8)
"Seasons" I
Frank Melino Co
Lottie Loder
Ada Broadbent
Russell & Marconi
Mack Bisset Co
MILW'KEE, WIS.
Wisconsin (8)
"Moroccan" I
Hadji Ali
Gaylenne
Hassan's Co
James Gaylord
Sherry Louise
SAN JOSE, CAL.
California
2d half (10-13)
"Great Raymond"
Bernie V & W
Sunkist Beauties
SEATTLE, WASH.
Paramount (8)
"Mickey Mouse" I
Mickey Mouse
3 Rolling Stones
Toots Novelle
Helen Petch
Chrissie & Daley
Louise & Cherie
Sunkist Ens
SPR'GF'LD, MASS
Fox Poli (8)
"African" I
E & M Beck
Prosper & Maret
F Foster & Mabelle
Foster's Animals
3 Brown Buddies
Cherie & Tomasita
Sunkist Ens
ST. LOUIS, MO.
Fox (8)
"Submarine" I
Radcliffe & Bob
Aerials Bartletts
Robert Cloy
Ward & Pinkie
Lea & Stuart
Steve Moroni
Sunkist Beauties

(Continued on page 70)

The Actor's Ma

By Joe Laurie, Jr.

"Come on Jimmy It's time to get up, I thought you told me last night that you wanted to get up early this morning?"

"I said early, but I didn't say in the middle of the night!"

"Middle of the night? Why it's after eleven o'clock."

"Oh ma, there ain't no use of me getting up so early, there ain't anybody in the booking offices before one o'clock."

"By the time you have your breakfast, wash and shave it will be time to get downtown. I can't imagine anyone getting down to their office at one o'clock."

"Well you see Mom our business don't start until the afternoon."

"I used to get your poor father up every morning at six and he was out of the house at seven. I don't know where you ever got that habit of sleeping late from, I think you're just naturally lazy, son."

" Oh Mom I'm not lazy. I tell you I try to get a job but things are slow right now in the show business."

" Now don't go trying to fool your mother. I read the papers. I see where the Shuberts and the Erlangers are putting on a lot of shows, why can't you get in one of those?"

"I'm in vaudeville, Ma. They're not using as many acts as they used to, and only the great acts work."

"I saw a vaudeville show the other night and there were no great acts there. Your act is better

(Continued on page 54)

CHICAGO'S JOB FOR 1ST CLASS WIRE WALKER!

Chicago, May 5.

Chicago is looking for a high-wire walker for its celebration next week. Wants a walker to take a wire route across the high buildings. So far none is available.

Last high walker in town was Jack Terry, killed some months ago when he jumped off the new Hudson bridge in New York. Terry walked a rope strung across the Chicago river and Michigan boulevard, under the auspices of the Hearst International Newsrel.

City is planning for a number of free circus acts to perform in the streets during the civic jubilee.

DISGUISED TEA

Mae Smith Found She Was Drinking Cocktails—Court Lenient

"Judge, I am from Portland, Me. I am 26 years old and yesterday was my birthday. A girl chum of mine suggested that I play some bridge and have tea. I did," stated Mae Smith, dancer, of 230 West 52d street, in West Side Court when she was arraigned for being slightly under the weather.

Miss Smith is diminutive. She was attired in a gray ensemble and gray bonnet. Her long dress made her appear shorter than she really was.

"At the bridge party they had no tea. They had orange blossoms. And I partook. Perhaps too many. But I am very repentant. If you permit me to go you can rest assured I will attend no bridge parties where they have orange blossoms. They must have tea or I will celebrate at home," she said.

The Court was impressed with her story and released the defendant with a suspended sentence.

Miss Smith was found near her home by Patrolman Michael McHale of the West 68th St. station. McHale told the Court that the dancer was helpless and he arrested her for safekeeping.

Kramer's Passes

Pittsburgh, May 5.

Kramer's Atlantic Garden, famous eating house in the Diamond and in its hey-day the local hangout for politcians and visiting professionals, was closed last week under a landlord's warrant.

The warrant, attaching all the furnishings, was issued at the instance of the Hammel estate, claiming an unpaid rental of $33,214.

Before prohibition, Kramer's was the most popular beer garden in the city and a regular meeting place for performers after the show.

Low Liquor Market

Admitting a desire to unload by taking smaller profit, a New York rum handler has sent around a price list for liquor. He says $10 a case profit from the final consumer is enough, which is the reason for the low scales at present.

Quotations:	
Rye (case)	$56
Canadian Club 38 oz.	66
Indian Hill (bourbon) case of pints or quarts	56
Log Cabin (bourbon) case of pints or quarts	56
Scotch (choice of three brands, Usher's, Bullock & Lade or Black and White)	50
House of Lords	63
Cutty Sark	66
Champagne—	
Roederer, 1920	74
Monopole, 1921 brut	67
Brandy—	
Napoleon, 1848	115
Martell, 3-star	67
Bicardi (gal)	25
Red cap Burgundy	67

Dealer guarantees the booze listed, adding that "due to the small margin of profit we must respectfully request remittance within 10 days."

Schireson Jammed Up Again in Cleveland Through Operations

Cleveland, May 5.

Dr. Henry J. Schireson, plastic surgeon, who scrammed out of Chicago last year following revocation of his license on charges of malpractice, has gotten himself into more medical scrapes locally.

Pending in the Ohio courts are five damage suits totalling $197,500. Another suit awaiting court order may place in bankruptcy the American Institute of Facial Rejuvenation, of which Schireson is understood to be the head.

Two men and two women are asking from $30,000 to $50,000 each for alleged injuries following operations. Other case concerns itself with Helen Raae, beauty shop operator, who wants only $15,000, claiming defamation of her professional standing.

In answer to the suits, Schireson says he did not perform the operations, merely acting in an advisory capacity. Charges have been filed against him before the Ohio board.

Schireson's license to operate in Illinois was revoked last year following an operation on Sadye Holland in an effort to straighten her legs, which were later amputated.

GUILD'S 1ST MEETING TO TALK SARANAC FUND

At the Bijou, New York, after theatre time on the evening of May 19 (Tuesday) the Jewish Theatrical Guild will hold its first meeting for a general talk on its recently derived objective, The Saranac Fund. That Fund received its birth at the Guild's dinner to Mayor Walker last month, when about $7,000 was netted as the first moneys in the Fund.

With the announcement of a Saranac Fund by the Guild, some show people erroneously picked up an impression the Guild's Saranac Fund is intended as an auxiliary to the N. V. A. Fund and any amount received by the Guild for its Fund would be turned over to the N. V. A. That is entirely wrong. The Guild is establishing its own fund to maintain a non-sectarian home for invalids at Saranac.

A Guild's home in the Adirondacks was the primary but abandoned purpose of the Guild at its formation some years ago, as previously told of in Variety.

At the Bijou theatre meeting George Jessel will preside. He may name the committee to assume charge of the promotion of the Saranac Fund.

Frolic in June

Annual Friars' Frolic will be staged Sunday night, June 21, at the New Amsterdam, New York.

The show will be staged by George M. Cohan, Abbot.

KIRBY'S SENTENCE

5 Years for Dance School Head In Spokane

Spokane, May 5.

Harrold Kirby, operator of the Kirby School of Artistry, must serve from five to 10 years at the state penitentiary for an immoral attack upon one of his boy pupils, Judge Fred Witt ruled in Superior court here today. The charges were preferred by the foster mother of the youngster.

Kirby upon the stand refuted what he is alleged to have admitted in a private hearing. He claimed poison pen letters had damaged his school and his reputation to the extent that he was forced to close.

Kirby, at the time of his arrest, turned the school over to his wife, Vera Kirby.

HOSTESS' HANDY FOOT BRINGS PAIN AND BAIL

Mary Brown, 20, tall, slender blonde, dancing instructor at the Strand Roof, sobbed in West Side Court when Magistrate Anthony Burke held her in $500 bail for the Grand Jury for kicking Patrolman Edward Plagge, attendant of the West 100th street station in the groin. The assault occurred in the police station after Miss Brown had been arrested. Plagge will have to undergo an operation as a result of the injury, he told the court.

Prior to Miss Brown booting Plagge, she had kicked Patrolman Joseph A. Tempone of the West 100th street station and also an aged acquaintance whom she is said to have met a few hours earlier. Neither of these two was badly hurt.

Tempone said Miss Brown had a girl companion in the car. They had given an aged man a lift whom they met at 104th street and Lexington avenue. During the course of the ride, the aged one complained that an attempt was made to rob him.

The cop found Miss Brown and the elderly man in a hot argument. The other girl was in the cab. Tempone told all to beat it. Miss Brown dug her heel into Tempone's stomach. After much effort he got her into a cab and took her to the West 100th street station.

On the way, she sought to flee by leaping from the cab. Again Tempone got her back. Finally he got her to the police station. While being questioned she violently kicked the attendant in the groin. He was rendered helpless and an ambulance surgeon cared for him.

Miss Brown who lives at 104 West 105th street, swooned in West Side Court when first arraigned. "I feared I was to be assaulted," she cried, "and raised my foot to ward off blows," she said.

HUSBAND STABBED WIFE

Irving O'Neil Wanted Reconciliation She's in Hospital—He's in Jail

Mrs. Elaine O'Neil, 20 years old, sister-in-law of Charles Freeman (not the RKO booking office head), was unable to appear in West Side Court to prosecute her husband, Irving O'Neil, charged with stabbing her with a kitchen knife in the home of her sister, Mrs. Charles Freeman, 17 West 67th street.

An attorney who appeared for O'Neil stated that the condition of Mrs. O'Neil was precarious. O'Neil, furrier, 25, residing at 52 West 68th street, was held without bail in West Side Court for a hearing this week.

The O'Neils have been married two years and estranged for seven months, according to Detective James McDonnell of the West 68th street station. Mrs. O'Neil was to have had dinner at her sister's home. O'Neil learned of it and went there. He is stated to have pleaded with his wife to become reconciled. Just what developed McDonnell stated he did not learn.

Mrs. O'Neil was implacable. O'Neil became enraged and thrust a kitchen knife into his wife's side. The Freemans disarmed O'Neil and the police were called. Mrs. O'Neil was rushed to Flower Hospital and O'Neil to headquarters.

The defendant was unable to explain. He couldn't recall the assault, he said the following morning when arraigned in Court. Assistant District Attorney Phil Wagner urged the Court to fix bail.

The Charles Freeman mentioned is said to be in the radio business.

Girls Lead Under Cover Attack of Eastside Speaks on Westside Joints

Eastside speaks are making their most concerted drive to dent Broadway and westside drinking trade since the advent of prohibition. Girls are the decoy and the move has already resulted in a couple of battles.

The last few weeks girls operating out of an eastside spot have been concentrating on one street west of Fifth Avenue and certain old customers have fallen for the lure.

The girls don't come over in bunches but follow a leader who becomes identified with a westside spot long enough to build up a wide acquaintanceship and be generally accepted as okay. It's then that the leader starts to work. An extra girl is needed in this or that party. She has a couple of friends. They come over, size up the mob and make a play for the spenders.

"Let's you and I go to some nice quiet place," is the introductory come-on line, tossed when it's certain enough drinks have been absorbed by the victim to make him want to haul anchor and go places.

One lad listened to such a call last week. He went to an eastside joint, ordered two drinks laid a $20 bill on the oar. When he asked for his change the capper showed her hand:

"Why, honey, you spent it. You ordered drinks for the house."

Remonstrances resulted in four bouncers surrounding the man and only the kindly interference of the bartender saved him from the hospital.

"Sure, you've been taken," said the barkeep. "You didn't spend fast enough. Get out while it's cheap and you've got your face."

NO TUESDAY NIGHT 'VARIETY' DELIVERY

Former delivery of "Variety" in the Times Square section on Tuesday night has been discontinued.

The Times Square district was covered by a special delivery on Tuesday night. Apparently it was appreciated. Newsdealers reported 70% of their sales were made Tuesday night, although "Variety" as a rule did not arrive uptown before 10:30 p. m. on that evening.

Discontinuance is through a publishing cause. Hereafter the paper will be out regularly in Times Square as elsewhere in the Metropolitan district on Wednesday morning, until further notice.

Choristers Idle But Boys and Girls Keep Seeking Stage Jobs

Little chance for newcomers to break into show business through the chorus this season. Chorus Equity's membership has been off two-thirds.

The chorus field is extremely overcrowded. Most of its experienced members are idle most of the year. Despite inability to make a living as choristers they won't leave the stage.

They stay on, living a precarious, starved existence but with no idea of permanently turning to something else.

It is a bit easier for chorus girls than for chorus boys. The girls can get outside jobs at modeling while they are waiting for something to break, but the boys find it difficult to get work of any description.

Chorus boys are usually young enough to be taken on in any business at $15 or $18 a week. When jobs were at all accessible they could always manage to earn something. But with few commercial concerns taking on any employes, the boys are left flat.

Just as many boys continue to try breaking into the show business. They believe conditions are no worse than anywhere else at getting a job. Commercial schools have had a run of young men taking stenographic courses with the idea of fitting into typing jobs that were once solely girls' employment. As sales girls, mannequins, reception clerks or stenographers, young girls have more chances than the boys rendered almost useless by the tightening up of business.

MRS. GIBBS ASSAULTED AT HOME BY "BIG MAN"

Rosella Ethel Gibbs, said to be a former show girl and now the wife of John Gibbs, manager of the Beacon Hotel, 2130 Broadway, appeared in West Side Court with her face swollen and her eyes discolored as a result of a savage assault by a "tall man" to whom she was hospitable in her apartment at 49 West 72nd street.

Mrs. Gibbs came to court as complainant against Charles Ohlott, 25.

(Continued on page 52)

4 Ticket Sellers Fined

Four clerks employed by ticket agencies pleaded guilty in Special Sessions to charges of soliciting purchasers of theatre tickets on the street. Each was fined $25. They were:

John Pane, 241 West 48th street, arrested March 19 in front of the Metropolitan Opera House; Frank Smith, 308 West 49th street, who was taken in in front of Madison Square Garden, March 16; Charles Reid, 212 West 15th street, arrested at Broadway and 47th street on Feb. 12 after he had offered a policeman tickets for the Globe theatre, and Mat Kaufman, 2807 Ocean avenue, Brooklyn, arrested March 16, for offering for sale tickets to the Garden.

COMSKY'S USED BONDS FOR EQUITY GUARANTEE

Isidore Comsky, 35, theatrical producer and former lawyer, who was disbarred in 1929, was arrested in the District Attorney's office by detectives Reilly and Croak on the charge that he failed to return $1,100 worth of negotiable bonds to Mrs. Margaret Price, 505 West 167th street. Comsky gave his address as 1935 Monterey avenue, Bronx. He was held without bail.

Joseph Price, husband of Mrs. Price, was formerly a teller in the Colonial Bank, 104th street and Broadway. Price was arrested on a larency charge by the bank officials. While he was waiting trial in West Side jail, Comsky obtained the securities from Mrs. Price to obtain the bail, the sleuths allege. This was in 1929.

Price was convicted by Judge Knott and sentenced to one year. Ten days ago he finished his sentence and sought the return of the bonds from Comsky. Unsuccessful Price went to the District Attorney's office and presented the facts.

Mrs. Price told the sleuths that Comsky posed to her as a bondsman when he obtained the securities. The latter were to be placed as collateral. At this time, Comsky, the cops stated was in trouble himself.

Comsky was sentenced from 2½ to five years in the Bronx for an alleged embezzlement by Judge Stackall. The execution was stayed and Comsky placed on probation. He is said to be making restitution in this case of $100 a month.

Comsky denied Mrs. Price's charge. He stated that he received the bonds in lieu of money for services rendered. The bonds have been sold. Comsky stated they were not worth the figure quoted by Mrs. Price.

Comsky placed the bonds with Equity to guarantee the salaries for a play, "Her Friend the King," he said. The play collapsed. He received the bonds back from Equity and disposed of them, the cops aver.

The defendant pleaded with reporters to spare him publicity. "And to think I am to produce a show which would have been a winner. Now the jig is up. This will ruin me and my play," cried Comsky.

Eli Johnson, attorney appeared for Comsky and asked Magistrate Burke to adjourn the hearing until this week. The request was granted.

CHATTER

Broadway

Willie Moore has the hives.

Russ Brown changing partners.

Arthur Behim back after illness.

Julia Hoyt off for California Sunday (10).

Norman Stein had cyst removed from ear.

Lou (Publix) Goldberg likes living in Scarsdale.

The Empire State building is a tough par four.

The girls are now singing "Eight Cents a Dance."

Leo Michel stepped out and threw a hot party. No reason.

Instead of going to Europe, Joe Kennedy went to Virginia.

Jerry Mayer, Hollywood agent, is around NY with the Missus.

Babe Ruth haberdashery on B'way vamping. Never got to first base.

Tallulah Bankhead threw a party after premiere of "Tarnished Lady."

Hassard Short copped five G's on an English race, getting odds of 11/1.

Charles LeMaire is off designing for the stage, switching to the dress trade.

Hal Horne not so strong for New York after eight years of Hollywood.

Ameta, the dancer, back from two-and-a-half-year trip to the Orient.

Jimmy O'Neal driving to Seattle June 1 to see his new daughter for the first time.

Lou Golder is investigating the St. Lawrence to see if the ice is out. He'll just look.

Nick Kempner stepped out, giving party to Ernst Lubitsch and Mischa Elman.

Broadway full of vaude actors talking over the good old days, as they call them.

Richard Watts of the Herald Trib sailed for Ireland last week. Dick is of the Ould Sod.

Alexander Woollcott, abroad, is reported as a columnist for the New York Sun when returning.

Cue golf, nine shots for a nickel, in several vacant storerooms around the Square. All starving.

Every time the Leviathan pulls out they have to dredge the slip. Goes for other big 'uns, too.

Frisco deVere, legit actress, in town from Saranac for a two-week stay. Returns Friday (8) and looks well.

Gloria Swanson probably for personal appearance thing with her newest talker, "Indiscreet," in New York.

It was Billy Brady who cracked about taking the kiddies to see "Devil in the Mind," not William A. Brady.

Joe Freiberg, taken to Rockefeller Foundation hospital days ago with pneumonia, is on the improve. Soon out.

Hal Green becoming a Titan, getting out Radio Pictures house organ during Harry Gittleson's absence on the Coast.

Jack Dillon, formerly of Erlanger's, bought Malba, L. I., home of George K. Morrow. Property valued at $125,000.

Child's eateries using a photo of C. C. Moskowitz, Loew's exec, in their pamphlet advertsing who's who of their customers.

Barker in front of the indoor sports arcade has switched from an Indian with bow and arrow to a dude with tails and cane.

Little Alice Weaver, unable to dodge hard luck in the form of illness for the past two years, back after wintering in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Marty Collins, vaude, have a boy five weeks old about whose birth they are sending out specially designed cartoon cards.

Primo the Carnera may join the 101 Ranch. All set to fight Jack Sharkey in Brooklyn June 10. If Prim cops, heavy sugar under canvas.

Charlie Einfeld went west promising to wire his score from Pebble Beach. No wires—so you can imagine. Or have you never played Pebble Beach?

Dorothy MacKay wrote a play called "Nan Taylor" while in San Quentin bastile. Carlton Miles, newspaper man, touched it up. It may be produced shortly.

Tex Guinan did business for her passage abroad. Looks like the French line with the Guinan troupe as entertainers on the boat for the voyage. Free ride in exchange.

George Jenks has quit the stage to become a picture house manager. His wife, who suffered a nervous breakdown recently, has gone to her mother's in the midwest to convalesce.

A hard-boiled banker went to the Coast with a grim determination to pep up things in the film capital. Then went Hollywood himself, forgetting to answer letters from the home office.

Chanins recently sold back to the United Cigar Stores the lease on the Lincoln hotel, which United bought for $9,600,000 at the time of its completion. The brothers will continue as operators.

Anent James Cagney's brief vaudeville career in the trio of Parker, Rand and Cagney, his top at any time out of the turn's $375 weekly was $75. Max Tishman owned the act.

The poses in which Myrtle Miller saw herself in the penny arcade peep machines, and over which she's suing the distributor for $250,000, were not nudes, as the stories stated. Just undraped.

Rain ruined the weekly Winslow-Crawford links event which is not exactly a tet-a-tete with Max hollering and Bobby crying. After each had spent the week with their respective club pro's, too.

Ellis Rowlands stepped out at a Joe Cook gathering at Lake Hopatcong, N. J., last week. He aimed for a world's record for after-eating spieling. At last reports he was out in front, credited with one hour and a half.

Leo Morrison flew in from the Coast in 32 hours. He expects to speed up going back. It's a conspiracy to keep out of the L. A. to N. Y. column, and vice versa. He's got to leave on a Tuesday for the paper to be right.

Undergoing a major operation while conscious usually seems tougher than it did to Charlie Yates, who returned to his agency last week. Under local anasthetic while having his appendix removed, Charlie talked golf with the surgeon during the 22 minutes of knifing.

Lots of activity around the Masquers for their public Revel May 9, midnite, at El Capitan. Masquers in to collect quite a bit on their RKO-Pathe shorts, which has the M. P. Relief Fund somewhat peeved locally. They worked on the idea for almost two years, with the NVA's "Stolen Jools" and the Pathe series taking the edge off.

Berlin

By Max Magnus

Henrik Galden here.

Hans Albers off to Nice.

Gerda Mauros in Locarno.

Reinhard Schuenzel back again.

Christoph Muelleneisen in Cairo.

Geza von Bolvary back from Nice.

Erich Pommer will go to Vienna.

Hans Reimann will go to Hollywood.

Julius Aussenberg back from Paris.

Fritz Lang, director, negotiating with Ufa.

Ralph Erwin back, working on new operetta, "Trixi.'

Charlotte Susa goes with Pittaluga Film Co. in Rome.

Ernst Deutsch on tour in Germany with Carola Toelle.

Lupu Pick's successor with Dacho will be Director G. W. Pabst.

Ernst Matray will stage the new musical for Cochran in London.

Senff-Georgi, well-known German elocutionist, poisoned in his home.

Freiherr Paul Kurt von Gontard back from film expedition in Africa.

Leo Lasko, director, at present on location in the West Sahara for Emelka.

Germany's most famous actor, Werner Kraus, married the actress, Maria Bard.

Richard Strauss' new opera, "Arabella," will come to the Berliner Staatsoper in 1933.

The Alexis Granowski picture, "Song of Life," was admitted by the censors after several cuttings.

Peter Kreuder canceled his contract with Reinhardt and will work only for his own compositions.

Korso cabaret closing end of April. Reopening in September with a revue by Helmuth Krueger.

Walter Harlan, author, died during a meeting of the German stage authors, shortly after a heated discussion.

Robert Flaherty off to Paris, and from there to London. Maybe he will make pictures in Spain, in the South Seas or India.

Erwin Piscator off to Moscow to direct several pictures for Meschrabpom-Russ. Expected back in fall or next winter.

Alphonse Fossil, president of International Vaudeville Actors' Association, will resign. G. Steffan likely his successor.

Manager I. Goldschmidt of Suedfilm returned from New York after having sold his "Dreyfus" picture to Ufa subsidiary in New York.

Natalia Saatz, manageress of State children's theatre in Moscow, will be the first directress to stage Verdi's "Falstaff" at the Staatsoper.

Dr. Eger, formerly Intendant of Berlin festivals, is successor of Dr. Arthur Wolf, recently deceased president of German stage association.

Claire Rommer is not as the London "Daily Express" has it, "a woman Sherlock Holmes," but appears as usual every evening in Kalman's operetta, "Das Veilchen von Montmartre."

Eugenie Nikoloaieva, Daisy Spies, Elisabeth Grube, Jens Keith, Walter Hung and Rudolf Kolling, solo dancers at the State Opera, were given notice. They have formed a ballet which has been contracted by the Wintergarten for several years.

London

Henry Ainley recovering.

Rene Clair over from Paris.

Empire having its face washed.

Olga Lindo going in for talkers.

Alma Taylor looks better than ever.

Dale Collins back from a world tour.

Jeffrey Bernard's golf on the upgrade.

Cameron Carr satirizing film producers.

Craze in this town is for French talkers.

William Evans on world tour, maybe.

Herbert Wilcox again promises a good story.

Warwick Ward bruised after a talker fight.

Monty Banks retired to the cutting rooms.

Horace Shepherd's company in liquidation.

Wilson Disher better, but walking on crutches.

Looks like Gaumont publicity in the "Referee."

Martin Harvey attacking Hollywood's kiss stuff.

Strange how Continentals are clicking in this town.

Sydney Morgan is to make another for Paramount.

Jimmy Bryson and Sydney Bernstein getting together.

Writing paper gets snappier and snappier in this town.

Contempt of court seems fashionable among newspapers.

Adrian Brunel's new Berlin shirts are considered advanced.

Dodge Dunning getting the space as a big time inventor.

Kid Berg about level with King of Spain on free publicity.

Harry Rowson started a fun instead of footage campaign.

Godfrey Tearle took the Paramount talker part after all.

Scotland Yard raided La Lune, nite dive off the Haymarket.

Kay Francis gets the fan criticism this side, either for or against.

Gustav Holst writing music for Associated Sound Film bunch.

Betty Amann over from Germany to help this place make pictures.

John (Paddy) Carstairs, Nelson Keys' son, as assistant for Radio.

Basil Dean reckons this paper ought to run more news about him.

Stamford Hill theatre running beauty competitions for the local skirts.

Arthur Dent lobbying in parliament and keen about B. I.'s stock dividend.

Chips Fisher of the Tivoli still laying crazy pavement at his new homestead.

Charlie Whitcombe, golfing bighat, has penned a town on putting and things.

Tom Clarke's leading Fleet Street editor, has authored another Northcliffe book.

Godfrey Tearle getting his photos on the subway trains through a space tie-up.

Kenneth Kove has a junior edition, which he puts in baby roles in local talkers.

Jack Hulbert and Paul Murray framing new revue to star Hulbert and another comedian.

Fenn Sherie, one-time film man, now producing amateur plays besides editing magazines.

Exhibs Association is checking up on West End grosses and advise exhibs about percentages.

Exhibs here are so dumb they even think the Sunday opening bill means forced Sunday opening.

Summer fashion parades reveal the dames will have the same excuse for covering the same legs.

London won all-England football championship for first time ever through Arsenal, ace London club.

Dorchester House, latest super hotel, just opened. Bath with every room, unheard of over here before.

Thief raided territorial office of British renting company, and only found one buck as stamp money. Shows you!

Salt Lake

By Phil Lasky

Morris Foster Hollywood-bound.

Fred Hamlin still wears polka dot bow ties.

Two municipal golf courses madhouse Sundays

Ben Erway new leading man of Hale-Munier stock.

Modernistic store fronts dotting main street—more every month.

Louis Untermeyer lectured twice under U. of U. extension division. Good crowds both evenings.

Eight acts of vaude at RKO attracting larger crowds. Acts run on and off in rapid-fire speed.

Publix has discontinued vaude in Victory, Salt Lake; Paramount, Provo; Paramount, Idaho Falls; Paramount, Ogden.

Hale-Munier Players at Playhouse have incorporated. Officers: Art Loft, pres.; Ferdinand F. Munier, v.-p. and director; Lewis Ellsworth, sec. and treas. Randolph Hale, recent backer, not in new set-up.

Paris

Louis Cole back from Berlin.

La Meri will marry her manager.

Billy West taking an apartment.

Al Woods back to N. Y. by June 1.

Monna and Vanna, sister team, split.

Sophie Bozan with Varna for term.

Fred MacKaye back from Hollywood.

Dorothy Harris to stay a while in Paris.

Joseph Plunkett in town to talk pictures.

Gwen Stone writing short stories on the side.

De Belle and Lee are going back to the Riviera.

Arthur Seelig showing Dick Henry the town.

Kay Boyle and Laurence Vail tying up in June.

Harry Pilcer and Marguerite Moreno at the Lido.

Trudy Krieger better at the American hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ornstein here for two months.

German actors mostly starving if not here on contract.

Alex Woollcott gladdening Nini's heart by his appetite.

Thomas S. Delahanty of Pathe News in town with Mrs.

The Clive Brooks are coming over for first time in five years.

Anna Sten one of the coming Negri-like European stars.

Eugene O'Neill happy over legal victory, may return to U. S.

The Jeff McCarthays are going to have a good, long vacation.

Fay Wray wants to join John Mock Saunders here in July.

Suzette O'Neil, wife of Dranem, recovering from serious illness.

Betty Bronson indignant about her run-in with Riviera police.

Marguerite Gilbert married Raphael Bethenod of Las Casas act.

Marguerite d'Alvarez and Beulah Livingstone out shopping together.

Vivian Duncan talking about her baby at Priscilla Kastner's cocktail party.

Lily Pons' mother has a dressmaking house back of a foundry shop.

Carlyle Blackwell alternates between the Riviera and the Elstree studios.

The Phelps twins couldn't stand the salaries in Paris and returned to London.

Newest sun bath suits are not pyjamas, but two-piece shorts and brassieres.

Thelma Edwards has a contract to star in a musical comedy for Bucharest.

Society sniffing because the consul's daughter, Joan Keena, is dancing in cabarets.

Charlotte Lewis, colored singer at the Marine, a rave with the men. Going to Spain soon.

Spanish royalty supposed to have paid $1,000 a day for their suite at the Meurice hotel here.

Hendrik Van Loon getting up and going out after ten minutes of Worth's fashion collection.

Mary Lewis did get that contract. It's the "Countess Mariska," to open next month at the Ambassador.

Embassy going to reopen with Sam Wooding's jazz orchestra and Emanuel Pizarro's tango band.

Every entertainer in Paris wants to open his own night club, if he's got enough rich clients to back him.

"Al Capone," by Fred Pasley, one of the best sellers. Soon to be translated into Spanish and German.

Florence Carson, wife of the agent here, going to dance with Grip in the next revue, "Femmes de Paris."

New Left Bank cabaret to open, run by Dinah of the Blue Angel. It's to be called "Dinah's, The Black Angel."

Edward de Merz, who cleaned up 200,000 francs on the Blue Angel night club, now has his eyes on another.

Mary Chambers wants to open an American theatre here in June. Sort of Wilette Kershaw idea, but not sexy plays.

American monthly magazine, The Comet, finally died, leaving Erskine Gwynne's Boulevardier without competition.

Joe Zelli accused Sammy Pierce of trying to pinch his customers for the Music Box. Result Sam can't go to the college boy's playground any more.

Everybody waiting for the 10 American girls Chanel picked for her mannequins. Arriving next month on a year's contract. Most are blonde.

Elsa Maxwell invited only titled guests to see the run of a short in which she is the only actor. She plays the piano and sings—not too nice songs. She screens surprisingly well and is amusing in the bargain.

Toronto

By Gordon Sinclair

Sammy ("What Price Glory") Cohen eating in Childs.

Bill Tilden talking things over with Elwood Hughes.

Capt. George Corsan back from Denver to train Wrigley-swim entrants. (His wife came in second last year.)

Frank Chamberlain in Hollywood and sending dirt postcards to his friends.

Joe Long is p. a.ing Edith McColl, Toronto stenog, who says she will fly the Atlantic in July. Six have failed; she thinks she's the lucky seventh.

Sunnyside Beach, Canada's Coney Island, opened Friday (1).

Empire theatre dark.

Bobby Eber's wife will be storked in June. Bobby was one-time banty champ of the Dominion.

Eighteen players in that Vincent Lopez orchestra at the Royal York Hotel were locals.

Betty Compton's ex-husband may lose his gown here for lowering the dignity of the Canadian Bar Association by naming names. Now Tommy Mungevin, his lawyer, claims his office has been rifled of the duplicate copy of Betty's divorce proceedings.

Jules Allen building a mid-town country club.

In a fortnight Jack Pepper, Imperial m. c., will swipe that Burns and Allen bit where the pianist finds himself in the wrong theatre.

Doc Rockwell dropped in on the De Forest Crossley dealers' annual blowout at the Royal York Hotel. Hal LeRoy there, too.

Lady Bessborough, wife of Canada's governor-general, will be storked at Government House next month.

Paderewski took 286 bows at his last Massey Hall recital here April 30. Gave two extra numbers.

Mountain Grass, Sifton stable pride, succumbed after gallant battle with pneumonia on way to Brandon races.

Twelve players from Toronto Symphony Orchestra will play at Bigwin Inn this summer, with Al Aylward conducting. Marjorie Squires and Edythe Shuttleworth to sing.

The Anderson Ross who wrote "The Love Tree" is Dr. Charles R. Owen, teacher of classics at North Toronto Collegiate.

Montreal

Six-day bicycling flop.

Censors easing off some.

Night clubs still folding.

Walter Jones in; Vic Sutherland out.

Joe Lightstone takes over Orpheum.

J. J. FitzGibbons down with appendicitis.

Billy Munro asking why it is called Frolics.

Jimmy Adams dropping kids' mats at Loew's.

Joe Cattarinich to run own horses at own tracks here.

McGill students wondering about jobs when diplomaed.

Nabes trying out kids' mats in effort to stem b. o. flop.

J. B. Baillargeon says city falling down on tourist bally.

George Rotsky and Howard Conover ballying anniversaries.

Montreal heads International League. Joe Page says not for long.

Leo Dandurand putting Les Canadiens in mutuels pay-off booths.

Axe falls on big corporation's employees. Ten per cent salary cut.

Best attended shows in Montreal are free. Include Japanese Royal couple and Communist riots.

Department stores waiting for United States tourists, half empty all along main street. Some of 'em closing departments. Locals lack cash.

Portland, Me.

By Hal Cram

Ed Don George wins from Jack Ganson here.

Chick Hayes from Boston for summer ring game.

Vivian Barry wants to try musical comedy next season.

Frankie DeRice ready to hop a flyer for Montreal season.

Food and Home Progress Expo. did record breaking business.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McDonald during the summer at Plymouth, Mass.

Good old time smashing 7-act vaudeville at Keith's draws big houses.

Roland Winters likes Portland and knows what it's like in the summer.

Old Man Depression given burial at State theatre by high school students.

Lawrence Fletcher on way to New York, thence home to Indianapolis until fall.

Old Orchard gets the jump by announcing $5,000 open golf tournament this summer.

Scott Kolk on two weeks' fishing trip, then to Gotham, world's greatest hick town, for whatever turns up.

CHATTER

Hollywood

Abe Meyer back.

Inez Norton here.

Lou Schreiber agenting with Arthur Landau.

Harry D. Wilson free-lancing for the fan mags.

Hollywood taxi drivers wearing riding breeches and boots.

Another "Who's Who" thing being worked among picture celebs.

Mike Boylan is the mysterious man in tweeds seen around Metro.

Harry Takiff is the last word at Radio on the selection of submitted titles.

William Randolph Hearst at a recent beach party was costumed as a Pope.

Max Lief has a Hollywood "hangover" already after the first load of the burg.

Al Kingston succeeded Irving Starr as Leo Morrisson's ass't. Latter with Morris office.

Jeanne Helbling, Alsacian freelance in Hollywood, forgot her yacht. It's at Cannes.

Publicity department's stationery at Fox-West Coast now reads "Fox-West Coast Service Corporation."

"T pe a la Mexican" appeared briefly on the Munchers' menu at Fox. It was scratched out pronto.

Clara Bow confesses a terrible scare with each new talker she starts. Avers she's still uncertain of herself in dialog.

Arthur Sheekman, who came out here as a gag man for the Marx Brothers, is now on the credit sheet for additional dialog.

Wiring from New York, Winnie Sheehan stopped production of the Fox remake, "Over the Hill," until he returns. Cast changes needed.

Fox studio has suggested, and Buddy DeSylva has agreed, that there's more class in George DeSylva. From now on that's his.

"One-eyed" Connolly in town with a banged-up face suffered in San Jose when he tried to crash a prizefight on horseback. He crashed the gate and also his head against a beam.

A femme chatter writer has objected long and often at the rough treatment she was accorded in "Queer People." Three writers are planning to start novels based on her exploits.

Matinee Luncheon club is latest eat and entertainment project. Women lunch over a dramatic reading, then hie themselves to a legit matinee. Mrs. Dickson Morgan and Mrs. Alice Botsford are organizers.

Ben Piazza drove his boiler to Coronada Beach as part of his California hospitality to Al Alter, the visiting M-G-M caster, and on the way back his a.k. car saw the inside of every garage between San Diego and L. A.

Pessimism note: The dummy newsboy in front of Henry's is donating his location to his youthful assistant and will seek a downtown spot. Claims they've either stopped reading out here or the adjacent boulevard competitish is too much.

Louisville

By M. W. Hall

"The Old Inn," famous cafe of 10 years ago, reopened.

Governor Sampson designates May 3-9 as Music Week.

J. M. Robison, former U. S. Senator, has opened law offices.

Jack Turner, WHAS star, can't keep overcoats. Forgets to lock his car.

Western Arts Association held annual meeting last week, 700 delegates.

Col. Abe Feinberg, formerly of Gayety, may rent Walnut for stock burlesque.

Judge John Bryce Baskin fined Magistrate Don Warren $15 for contempt of court.

2,200 automobiles registered from Shively, town of 25 families. Looks like tax evasion.

Stench bombs are being hurled at Brown, Strand, Rialto, Kentucky and Loew theatres.

Circus opened Sunday for first time, formerly Monday shows. Hegenbeck-Wallace.

Pat O'Sullivan, pianist and composer, formerly here, suffered a broken leg in Memphis.

Wright Players sold 2,200 advance seats for "Apron Strings." First stock since Brown's in 1929.

National, leased three weeks ago by Switow Brothers, dark again. Cheap vaude and second runs no go.

Abe Bass, owner of National, has leased house to Brown Enterprises of Marion, Ind., for two years at $62,000.

Prince Pat, praised by late Arthur Conan Doyle, peddling prophecies at Egyptian Tea Rooms, local restaurant.

Mrs. Anne Fellows Johnston, 67-year-old creator of "The Little Colonel" series of books, is seriously ill at her Pewee Valley home.

A group of friends have published "Miss Betty Lewis and Her Work" in honor of her dramatic school efforts here for many years.

Adolph Reutlinger went fishing in Harrington Lake and caught himself. Artificial bait got stuck in a tree. He pulled hard and it caught in his nose.

Times files amended articles of incorporation increasing capital stock from 1,000 shares at $1 each to 1,500 shares at $1,500 each, and limit of indebtedness from $10,000 to $1,000,000. Does it intend to run Herald-Post?

Abe Bass, owner of National, sued his brother-in-law, Max Kushner, for $7,500 for death of Bass' two-year-old son, Louis, in auto accident in 1929. Won case and $2,500 also against Mrs. Lizzie I. Moneypenny, whose car figured in crash.

C. B. O'Nan in jail again. This time accused of stealing a purse containing $11 from Women's Club coat room. In February he was the hare in a chase from ballet room at Memorial Auditorium during performance of "Mignon" by Chicago Opera.

Reno

Snowed here last week, 10 inches deep.

Great treat for the first six-weekers from California here to give Cupid a break.

Average payroll of gambling houses now $2,500 a day.

Wages for gambling game dealers have been increased to $15 a shift of eight hours.

W. A. (Big Bill) Kelly, court baliff, had his hands full during the courthouse rush keeping the divorce parade moving.

Bank Club, gambling resort, boasts of the biggest upright Neon electric sign on the Pacific Coast excepting one theatre sign in L. A.

Jot Scott, chief second for Mrs. Dempsey (Estelle Taylor) in the impending court battle, had a good time here last week. Thinks Dempsey picked out a fine spot to spend six weeks.

Jack Dempsey making a great hit here as a dinner club speaker. The ex-champ told the knife and fork wielders on two occasions how much he likes Reno and they are thinking of making him a director of the Chamber of Commerce.

Silver Slipper, rival night club to the old reliable Willows, was raided last week. Business good there, too. Nevada's entire prohibition squad made the raid. He walked in the front door, took charge of the bar, and walked off with plenty of evidence, the report stated.

Pittsburgh

By Hal Cohen

Dick Powell back.

Jim Sharkey in hospital for three weeks for stomach treatments.

The only monocle in town is over the left eye of Horace Sinclair.

Wesley Eddy has a new custom-made car and Dick Leibert a roadster.

Joe Penner insisted upon dressing for a nite club to reveal a new monkey suit.

Florence Fisher Parry, columnist on the Press, used to be Florence Fisher, legit leading lady.

Don Stitt bought a new rhyming dictionary to help him think up Bernie Armstrong's organlogs.

Tom Lysaught, blackface radio crooner, says he doesn't have to get a haircut because he's an actor now.

Downtown Y.M.C.A. Group won Samuel French trophy and $100 cash award in Pittsburgh Drama League contest.

Bill legalizing Sunday baseball in Pennsylvania, passed by state legislature, expected to get veto from Governor Pinchot.

Maureen, of Maureen and Sonny, used Benny Drob, the prop man, as her official leg-puller for those killing setting-up exercises.

Jobless actors are hanging out around Earl Roeser's little Palace theatre on Diamond street. They don't miss Broadway that way.

George Seibel, Sun-Telegraph drama ed, leaving soon for Scandanavia to spend the summer. He's covered all Europe save Russia.

Mary Leibert doing field work here for the Red Cross and getting a big kick out of it. She has a nurse for the recent addition to the family.

Davis, which hasn't panned out toto well for Warners, will try to make a go of it as a run house, first picture to be "The Public Enemy."

Bob Wood, ex-city ed old Gazette-Times and now an insurance p.a. as well as a playwright, did it last week. Her name was Margaret Lindquist.

Angela, of the Three Queens, came home last week to find an engagement ring waiting for her from Mike Cappy, band leader at Caruso's restaurant.

Carl Laemmle sent an autographed copy of his biography to one of the local film cricks here here but it had somebody else's name. The crick burned.

Saranac

By Happy Benway

Fishing season is on.

Angela Papulis back to normal.

Gladys Palmer's sister here from Chicago.

No overproduction here; all consumption.

Fred D'orio in town, not ill, but resting and singing.

James Giltrap (IATSE), N. Y. C., at Lodge visiting wife.

Mandy Kay getting along okay. More weight, and ho y'

Florenz Ames left okay. Came here with this, that and the other.

Tots Koban now looking at his best. Expects to send home for those barrels soon.

Fred Rith, after an x-ray and the check-up examination, will stay in bed for about two months.

Lilly Leonora improving sitting up, painting and gaining weight, also breaking in new pajamas.

Russ Kelly, downtowner, now at his best, swears that T. B. is not T. B. taken too seriously or otherwise.

Ida Howard and Ingret Fisher coming along on the okay sid . Good x-ray reports. May get exercise soon.

William Holly, now closing in on a year of that strictly abed-thing, a game "curer" who is showing a fine result.

From Denver: Joseph Vaughey (1433 Olive street) about ready for the comeback east. Has had a three-year siege.

Dick Kuni says that this is the only town in the world where one can get frost bitten and sun burned the same day.

Xela Edwards doing a 100% collapse with the gas thing and a 100% okay on the comeback side. Nice after two years abed.

Bobby Hatz, now a leather tooling expert, also up for three meals a day, limited exercise, expects to visit the Robin's sand lots next month.

Frisco DeVere left for the big street for a short stay. Wants to see if whiffing that downtown air will make any difference with the bellows.

Gladys Gay Parie Bishop, that little curer who did a 100% comeback here, now at French Lick. She will return here for a check-up on that how do you feel thing.

Edward DeCaro, with that long-looked-for okay, left for NYC an arrested case. After a short stay at home he will start honeymooning it. Florence Miner is the girl.

Fred Bachman, a bed patient for two years in a Chicago san, received a radio for a birthday gift. His first tune-in brought in "Would You Like to Take a Walk?"

Harry Namba, Dick Kuni and Tots Koban all sent photographs. So far all they have received is another letter for an additional $5. (All big T. B. doctors please note.)

Andrew Molony just finished a battle of that in-bed thing, quite serious for a while. Day and night nurses. As usual, Andy licked it. Now taking bows on the main stem.

Doris Moore, after ups and downs, now on the okay side. Ted Moore (hubby), Mrs. VanWinkle (mother) and Charles Turner motored from Westfield, N. J., on a visit, and they generally prove good doctors.

From Tokyo, Beverly Griffith of Fox Films sent Kitty Flynn a card, viz., "See in Variety you were ill. Hope that you will be well before this card reaches you." How those good cheer cards help up here!

From Tucson, Ariz.: Tom Lenihan (Fairview san), who has been hitting the cure for some time, took an examination. His medico put him on a vocal rest. No doubt Tom is now paying his medico hush money.

From Nice, France: Frank Scully (Variety), who did his bit in Saranac and 800 other health resorts, now okay, writing a book called "Fun in Bed." Hope it's a success, but who ever had any fun while sick in bed?

From Alexandria, La.: Hi Tom Long (U. S. Vets. Hospital), veteran of a million and one theatrical ventures, staging a big show toward the comeback side, has had a touch of about everything, but now holding his own. Cheerful letter would help that old-timer.

From Rutland, Mass.: Lee Fester (Central N. E. San), after a serious setback, now once more on the okay side, states that after his operation he was positive business was real bad, because he took a big cut and still they made him lay off. A vaudevillian fighting a hard battle.

From Cambridge, Mass.: Oliver Langevin (Holy Ghost Hospital), connected with the old Dresser opera house in Southbridge, Mass., years ago, says that between the two (hospital or o. h.) he would prefer the o. h. He's getting along okay and receiving great treatment.

From Chicago: Nate Mulroy (Hotel Sheffield Manor) just getting over the flu and all that goes with it, now back to normal. Formerly of Benway and Mulroy. Since Benway got the bug and came to Saranac, Mulroy has been connected with the Chicago Daily News as a copper.

Osaka Mainchi Publishing Co., of Osaka, Japan, shoots out this ad. in the last month's mag., viz.: Chronic tuberculosis cured either directly by personal touch or by means of photographs. Simply by standing in front of a patient Mr. R. Aoki can diagnose their illness and suggest a cure. These cures can be made even if you live thousands of miles away. All you have to do is send your photograph.

Cleveland

By Glenn Pullen

Margaret Covie is Robert McLaughlin's new p. a.

Jimmy Ague doing his radio songs at Coral Gables.

Lee Roth and Claude Hoagland have merged their bands.

Kay Kyser's band, local, given week's date at Palace here.

Striking waiters and cooks have settled with Hotel Hollenden.

Hy Baron in State band shaved off mustache to please Ted Claire.

Jack Marshall, m. c., for Manny Landers' band, on leave of absence.

Margaret Gibbons, dance coach, engaged to local auto man, Frank Finney.

Tommy Carroll, former Loew manager, now managing Griff Morris' band.

Bonner Semple Dunkerson, Play House actress, off to New York to write plays.

New playlet by Walter Rochenbach, local playwright, produced by Play House.

Bubbles Arnold, local nitery singer, once was fashion columnist on Buffalo "News."

Sam Bradley, of Bradley Players, reported to have smashed rib or two in taxi accident.

Clyde Davidson, new China dance inspector, to manage dance spot in Conneaut Lake Park, Pa.

Matt Brock, local boxing ref., accidentally shot in battle between gunman and cop. Not serious.

Carlton Brickert's little theatre folds for summer. Company reopening in Youngstown late this month.

Albert Carroll, vaude impersonator, is brother of Gene Carroll, of the Cleveland radio team of Gene and Glenn.

Nitery boys and State's musicians threw farewell party for Harry Shaw, who leaves for New York to join Loew's production dept.

Ed Keller's Cocoanut Grove, nite spot, dark after being in hands of receivers three weeks. Vic Leval, manager, opened spot of his own called Red Lantern within 24 hours.

Dallas

By Ruby Donat

Hayden stock folded.

Sig Badt, ad copy hasher, writing play.

Don Douglas rates as best coffee drinker on film row.

Film distribs talking about a golf turney for show folk.

J. B. Underwood building new home in the country.

Merchants gave daylight time the razz, and nobody mad.

Ex-booker contemplating a dance joint equipped with gigolos.

Lawrence Keating gets attention with tennis, besides acting.

Lucille Kelly, pro Nancy Dover, dropped in on relatives last week.

Julius Caesar Romero, local stude, off for an RKO screen test on the coast.

L. B. Rust, former booker for Par, goes with indie exchange as branch mgr.

Dwight Brown making slow comeback at the Texas, new nabe, at his old job, organist.

Considerable interest in racing around town, although ponies ruled out of Texas. Betting plentiful.

Women's clubs still pushing the censor idea. Nobody seems particularly interested but the femmes.

Faye Lemmon, femme p. a. for Old Mill, made a speech to the parent-teachers' assn. That's how hard times are.

Theophflus Fitz's celestial opera, "Womanhood Glorified," didn't even appeal to the pious. Scarcely 100 for the opener. Native talent no draw.

And now it's evident why Bobby Connelly's idea for an original musical here this fall didn't click with state fair execs. Asked $80,000 for his cut.

Kidd Springs first outdoor spot to open, this week. Swimming and midway, with dime admission. Biz good every summer. City opening competish place on White Rock lake this summer.

Loop

Joe Sherman has become a six syllablist.

Benny Meroff came back to town with the same valet.

Billy Diamond says the Loop not so bad after the w. k. w. c.

W. S. Butterfield and family back in Michigan from California.

Jack Danger, agent, soon to be crooning regularly for NBC.

Lou Goldberg has quit the loop, will stick to theatre in Long Beach.

Edith Blair, formerly of Vaughn Sisters, is now singling in the Roxy cafe.

Ted Weber doubling as manager and p. a. for White City. It opens May 13.

Hank Peters now locally on film row as personal rep in the midwest for Walt Disney.

Freedlander Bros., comedy musical act out of vaude, slated to hit the air shortly for WLS.

Col. Bill Roche's latest Wales pony importation goes by the moniker of Craven Sunshine.

Club Artists association continued its social strides with a clown party at the Sherman House.

Jimmy Cooke took a shot at the lobster trick over NBC studios to give Jim Little a chance to catch up.

Lee Sims such an ad-libber at the piano, he doesn't play even his recorded music twice in the same way.

Danny Graham has figured he's saved enough coin by not wearing hats to pay for his manuscript postage for three more years.

Rochester

By Don Record

Merc 84 to 34. Br-r-r!

Eighty-seven dance schools in city.

Theatres cut on advertising with opening of outdoor season.

Robert Stevenson from New York as treasurer of Auditorium stock.

Paul Benton, m.e. of the "Times Union," doing series on youth reform problem.

George Blackwood replaces Carl Benton Reid as leading man of Auditorium stock.

Dorothy Tree, Auditorium Players' lead, goes to Hollywood for Paramount in July.

Margaret Frawley, "Democrat and Chronicle" reporter, may go to Russia this summer.

Lilac queen to be chosen in connection with Rochester's Lilac Sunday, probably May 17.

Virgil Markham, son of Edwin Markham, is in Avon writing novel with locale in this section.

Regent admitted kids free with parents on opening day of "Skippy" to give film quick talk publicity.

Joan Claire (Claire Sisters, Spanish dancers) training for benefit performance, fell and broke her arm.

Billy Hallen (Hallen and Hunter) is selling real estate in Spencerport under his real name, William Hallen Falls.

Mrs. Edna Gruver Reeves of Batavia wants to give away a minnie golf course to some institution that will take it away.

Frank Snyder of Red Creek quits as mail carrier to organize Snyder Brothers' circus, season opening with home stand May 2.

Marie Keber Burbank, formerly of Eastman stage company, who joined Roxy's Gang on tour, now pupil of Mme. Schumann-Heink.

Katherine Skuse Benz, "Miss Rochester" of 1924, seeking divorce from Henry Benz, roadhouse operator. Married shortly after she was crowned.

U. of R. girls can win letter for such outdoor sports as wheeling a neighbor's baby or washing family car as long as they certify to so many hours.

Grand Duchess Marie of Russia on speaking tour refused to pose with Princess Ami de Cerami of the Auditorium Players. Another publicity stunt spiked.

Birmingham

By Bob Brown

George Steele writes short stories.

Dixie, Negro house, going sound.

Oscar Watson helps out with the art work at times.

Radios as premiums, every theatre in town giving them away.

Soda skeets around town are growing mustaches. Joe Miller has one.

George G. Goodale succeeds Dixie Graham as mgr. Bromberg exchange.

Yodeling Smitty came into the city from the sticks and made good over WBRC.

Clint Lake, who left Birmingham recently, is now mgr. of the Rialto on Broadway.

The North Birmingham Nite Club has opened. Only night club within a mile of nowhere.

Three Musketeers are Vernon Reaver, Ben Sims, and Bill Coury. Nobody knows why or cares.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Bankhead came down from Jasper to see the Southern premiere of their daughter, Tallulah, in "Tarnished Lady."

CHATTER

Minneapolis

By Les Rees

Gayety (stock burlesque) folds.

Modernized badger game working here. Girl lures victims to robbers' den.

Eddie Kueppers invested in a new car just after paying off on an old one.

Morris Abrahams making speedy recovery from emergency appendicitis operation.

Jack Lorentz, new Fox exchange manager here, succeeding M. A. Levy, transferred to Milwaukee.

Stewart Johnson critically ill at General hospital. Recently married daughter of Bunte, Chicago candy magnate.

Oscar Danielson's Swedish band, local radio feature, engaged as special added attraction at Minnesota next week.

Cedric Adams, former newspaper columnist here, making hit as m. c. for radio programs. Uses wit to good advantage.

W. J. McDonald, Metropolitan theatre advertising agent and local billposter for many years, who died recently, left $50,000 estate.

Negotiations completed for American concert tour for Eunice Norton, brilliant young local pianist, daughter of prominent legislator.

Grand jury examining bank accounts of various police officials and mayor's secretary in connection with vice protection investigation.

Ruth Harding Pack, former legit actress, and now society leader, wife of local millionaire utility magnate, doing radio interviews with prominent women.

Local society girl arrested using father's automobile and accompanying bandits on drug store hold-up. Said she went along "for thrill." Probably will blame that on pictures, too.

Cafe of George O'Rourke, mayoralty candidate, raided at 3 a. m., on account of dancing after hours. Mayor W. A. Kunze, seeking reelection, revoked establishment's license. Nice boys!

Her husband, Bert Lytell, delayed a week, Grace Mencken will substitute as Bainbridge drama guest star at Shubert for seven days starting next Sunday. Then will appear with the Lytell for fortnight.

State Senator Victor Lawson of Willmar, dry leader, hits at drinking in state legislature in newspaper editorial. Declared "drinking among legislators no minor thing, but many indulge to degree that renders them unable to serve properly." Perhaps just as well for Minnesota.

Detroit

By Lee Elman

Joe LaRose was hitting them around last week.

Bill Raynor, who plays tournament golf is looking for a chump.

Station WXYZ has made an application for Television broadcasts.

Sammy Clark, smoking a cigar and driving a high-powered Chevrolet.

B. B. Katz has just joined the local Publix office in the real estate department.

Oscar Davis is known by his white carnation and Dave Davidson by his white tie.

Eddie Loughton was taken to jail on a frame the other night. Met a lot of old friends there.

Midnight amateur shows getting big turnout of nances, called fluffs, locally, among other things.

The Early Birds, Miller and Ray, are now on the air at 7 a. m., an hour earlier that they were before.

Phil Lampkin claims he is trying to get out of show business. Unknown who or what is stopping him.

Carl West was at the Aviation show looking over the ships since he closed his office for Remick and is working out of his hat.

Bill Tracy got married and had a party across the river. Hung out the S. R. O sign. John CMacDonald, best man. First time he's been that close to the firing line.

Nate Platt has a nice word for everyone since his wife, Myrtle reached town. Mrs. Platt may stay here but she's off bridge parties, etc., which makes her quite a girl besides being Mrs. Nate.

Honolulu

By Mabel Thomas

Mrs. Lon Chaney here for a long rest.

Ricardo Cortez on the beach for 10 days between pictures.

Louis Greenfield and Walter Hodges here for four weeks from San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Mitchell celebrated their 20th anniversay April 21. Eddie does publicity for Consolidated Co.

Wilbur Players closed a 26-week run here April 24. Most of the players are returning to California. Most of the company had flu for two weeks, but carried on.

Boston

By Len Libbey

Boston may have night courts soon.

Cigaret price war has ended at two for 27 cents.

Ringling's playing Boston indoors again and going fair.

Yiddish Players at the Franklin Park theatre reviewed by the Boston Transcript, no less.

Wrestling war in Boston getting so bitter that a lot of truth is being printed by Bill Cunningham in the Post.

Joe Gilman, the crockery king and former all-America football star, takes over the Boston Garden on a hoss-sense basis.

Barbara Hastings, local college girl, exploited as a coming star by Joe DiPesa at the Copley theatre.

Dorothy Hubert, Boston's only beautiful professional model, takes poison from despondency, but will probably pull through at City Hospital.

Hotel Arlington, with 1,000 rooms, which went respectable several years ago, closes its doors through lack of business. Structure houses the old Castle Square theatre.

Ed Mumford is leading the local organization plans of bookers and entertainers who are being hurt by the bootleg entertainment featuring dirt cards for stage. Mayor Curley helping the clean-up.

Clergymen appeared in opposition to Levaggi's Show Boat Night Club idea, back of the South Station. Opposish based mainly on the wickedness of dancing and night clubs generally.

Ray Fontaine, night club entertainer, been granted his divorce after much evidence on both sides involving local celebrities.

Charley Winston due back next week, with health regained.

On Post Roads

By Al Crawford

Fort Hill Duck Farm, roadhouse near Yonkers, raided by agents for third time.

I. Balch Louis, lawyer, North Pelham, known to radio fans for talks on business law, who died a short time ago, inserted a clause in his will requesting his wife to remarry after his death.

Mount Vernon police holding Lucy Holland, dance club hostess, 166 East 108th street, Manhattan, as material witness in connection with murder of Andrew D'Amate, Bronx speak owner, whose body was found in Mount Vernon, March 24.

Buffalo

Shubert-Teck out as legit house for season.

Streett opening stock June 1 at Erlanger with Ione H. Tine in lead.

Milton Korack cold on Hollywood lease, taking over Fillmore for 10c stage-picture policy.

Wesley Eddy yanked as m. c. from Great Lakes without notice now showing in Pittsburgh.

Pennsylvania U Masque and Wig Club kicked plenty when at Erlanger, finding bill for stage hands was double the amount the boys collected in Pittsburgh night before.

Milwaukee

By Frank J. Miller

Charlie Behm, for many years treasurer, is now a cheese salesman.

WTMJ, Milwaukee "Journal" station, now starts things at 6 in the morning.

Edna Dunlop, once drama writer on "Journal," now has her own advertising business.

Frank Laird Waller, director of Milwaukee's Philharmonic Orchestra was a famous athlete at college.

Another local lad who made good in a big city is Bob Gunnis, former box office man, now assistant city attorney.

No further peeps from a certain woman's club about balcony petting. Found there wasn't anything to worry about.

Dollar-a-week tickets on street cars popular. Ride as often as you want for that money. A more liberal transfer system also provided.

Mrs. Roland Coerper, former Alice Ringling of the Ringling circus family, has had most enthusiastic audiences in Chicago this month when she gave several programs of original readings.

Milwaukee has real ball team. First time in ages local aggregation has come home from opening spasms in anything but last place. Great race between Art Shires and Cuckoo Christensen for comedy honors. They're roommates.

Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne at the Pabst in "Elizabeth the Queen" felt thoroughly at home here. They spent their nights and spare minutes at the home of Mr. Lunt's mother, Mrs. Harriet Sederholm, in Genessee, near Milwaukee.

Seven thousand two hundred paid admission for the heavyweight grunting match between Gus Sonnenberg and Milwaukee's own Ernie Scharpegge with a gross total of $12,000. Gus won two out of three. The previous bout resulted in injury to Sonnenberg when Ernie threw him out of the ring onto the concrete floor of the Auditorium. Largest attendance for any wrestling bout ever known hereabouts.

Syracuse

By Chester Bahn

Syracuse remains on standard time.

Mary Williams, Syracuse actress, given screen test.

Syracuse now has its third radio station—WMAC, Syracuse University's.

Syracuse University's radio station, WMAC, begins broadcasting this week.

Mrs. William J. Tubbert is recovering from a facial infection; toilet preparation blamed.

Downtown managers Monday night gave a dinner for Mayor Rolland B. Marvin. His Honor is sailing to Europe.

Sheriff John Sleeth has two more theatrical deputies; latest are William J. Tubbert of Keith's and Victor Frank of Loew's.

Peter Cimicato, of the Four Vagabonds, radio act, suffered a crushed chest, fractured leg and severe lacerations when struck by a hit-and-run driver.

Alma Jeanne Williams, professionally Sonia Karlov, is back in the old home town to negotiate with Julian S. Brown, of the Dewitt, for that house for summer stock.

Showing of advertising films in local theatres will bring retaliatory measures from local papers, it is indicated. Publishers returned from national meetings in a fighting mood.

Hearst's Journal-American is using no by-line for its reviews in the absence of Franklin H. Chase, critic, in Europe. The Journal desk is being handled by F. John Pendergast of the city staff.

Paul H. Forster, Fox-Eckel featured organist, and Gus W. Lampe, Fox house pilot, have teamed up as "Paul and Gus" for radio. Act will be a WSYR weekly feature, with Hearst's Journal-American tying in.

Relatives here, hear that Edna May (Lewisohn), now living in retirement in London, may wed Howard Gould. If so, Gould will be the third husband of the Syracuse girl. Her first, divorced, was Fred Titus, bicyclist; her second, deceased, Oscar Lewisohn.

The Dewitt showed similar disinterest in "Sinners Holiday," although a hot local angle. The film, which the Strand passed up, is based on "Penny Arcade," the author of which is Marie Baumer, daughter of a well known local family. House made no attempt to capitalize upon this fact, if knowing it.

James V. Baldassare, of Portland, won the barber title from Billy Menzer of Waterloo in a match staged in the latter place last week. Rivals were to cut 25 heads of hair each. When Baldassare reached his 23d patron in 110 minutes, Menzer, only on his 19th, conceded the victory. Approximately 300 paid 50c. per to see the contest.

Despite the unusual local interest in "The Silent Enemy," as its society producer, William Douglas Burden, is married to a daughter of Ernest Ingersoll White of Syracuse, and Chief Long Lance who plays the lead, is a graduate of Manlius School, the Paramount passed up the picture, permitting it to go to the Riviera, neighborhood, for its first run. Riviera, apparently unaware of the prize package it had for local exploitation, did nothing with the film.

Toledo

By Dick McGeorge

Flophouse closing 15th.

Feigley packs 'em in at Riv.

Billy Olt opening new eatery.

Neat passes for the Valentine.

Dick Overmeyer is some worryer.

Bill (not Bob) Hall quite an entertainer.

Apple peddlers may be out in Columbus but they're up at 6 a. m. here.

Open golf tourney and nat'l Eagle convention biz hot and heavy in town.

Jack Oakie's "Dude Ranch" title changed to "Under Cover" at Paramount.

Paramount here het up over Variety's report it's going stage soon. Know nothing about it here.

Brooklyn

By Jo Ranson

Irv Solomon has a car.

Majestic pictures again.

Blanche Livingston is gaining weight

Lou Goldberg playing tennis in Brooklyn.

Louise George's spouse is editor of "Airways."

Morris Kinzler, Fox p. a., may move to Brooklyn.

Elsie Thompson, Par organist, has sold two ditties.

Paramount Inn, hangout for theatre celebrities, out of business.

Allan Prescott, mirror broadcaster, may go on Brooklyn commercial.

Maurice Bergman wearing goggles and still entertaining relatives.

Bob Weitman and Frankie Judnick getting spring ball training Sunday morning in Prospect Park. Weitman former star of Cornell nine.

Cincinnati

By Joe Kolling

Bill E. Danziger in knickers.

Max Halperin learning Cincy.

Fresh outbreak of vestpocket golfies.

Community chest $2,400,000 drive, biggest ever, over the top.

J. L. McCurdy down to normal weight; dropped mustache.

Francois Vathe replaces Paul Batchelor as Zoo ballet director.

Little Jack Little, now with NBC in New York, sold his home here.

George Olsen's orchestra returns to Netherlands Plaza May 7 for 12 days.

Outdoor showman mopping with pony track on lots in tenement districts.

The Barge, river dansant near city wharf, new enterprise floated by Duke Taney.

Ken Magers walked into a daily's city room and asked for the RKO editor. Reaped a bellow.

Managers Schieffler, Horgan and Reichl of Gibson, Sinton and Plaza hotels are Kentucky Colonels.

The few surviving local box office boys grabbed mutuel machine jobs for Louisville and Latonia race meets.

Kenneth Doris, vet Enquirer news hound, got a buck from "Whiz Bang' 'for a gag which he has since seen in print seven times.

Alexander McQueen, WLW's "nothing but the truth" broadcaster, does a timid soul on cigarets. He never smokes, but always carries fags to oblige friends.

Seattle

By Dave Trepp

Seattle isn't saving daylight.

G. Richard Eckman back in town.

Art Gillis to L. A.

Roy Oxman to L. A. with two new songs for publishers.

Recall petitions filed against Mayor Edwards, ex-showman.

Cecil Gwinn from Gyas Harbor in town; says lumber still down but looking up.

Charlie Wellman, radio and former vaude actor, takes Ruth Alexander as his bride. Non-pro.

Betty Prichard, co-ed and hello girl at Fox-West Coast, fights midnight attacker and crashes front page.

Will King has his own cafe in S. F. now catering to theatrical folk and presiding over the cash register in person. Jobs for ex-chorus gals and professionals also.

New England

Downtown second run film competition lively in Worcester, Mass., with low prices and double features.

Some Liggett stores firing girl pianists at music counters and replacing with girls to operate player pianos.

Joe Donovan, former pitcher in the N. E. baseball league, has been doing an m. c. at the Bates theatre, Attleboro, Mass.

The "little lady with the big voice" of stage fame many years ago, Nettie de Coursey, now lives in Worcester, Mass., and she's Mrs. Edward P. Jameson. Still knows the complete scores of 32 operas.

Twice a beauty contest winner, Anna Yankauskas of Brockton, Mass., is suing Evelyn Bloom of Boston for $10,000. She alleges she suffered permanent facial disfigurement from an auto collision two years ago.

One newspaperman was the audience on the first day and no one attended the second day's appearance at Webster, Mass., of Prophet Nelson Abbott of the House of Light and Truth of Roxbury. He had to call off the three-day engagement. The newspaperman, Lawrence J. Daly, listened attentively to the "prophet's" hour talk.

Denver

Trout fishing is taking place of minnie golf.

Guy Bates Post has cancelled at the Broadway.

Both amusements parks, Elitch and Lakeside, open. Elitch theatre opens in June.

State legislature adjourned without passing any laws affecting the show business.

Mrs. Josephine Thompson, Denver burlesque actress, committed suicide here by slashing her wrists. Third attempt.

R. J. Garland, former mgr., Western Electric, made manager Columbia exchange here, succeeding J. R. Beale, who goes to Portland as Col. mgr.

Maxine Mesch, Denver dancer, and Ray Samuels, vaude performer, were married at Golden, near here, April 28. Will go to New York and form dancing team. Not the Rae Samuels (Mrs. Morty Forkins).

Providence

By A. A. Marcello

Dick Farrell in town.

Eddie Fitzgerald again a daddy.

Jack Toohey knows his tuxedos.

Lea Duhamel only woman p.a. in town.

Billy McDermott now at Loew's State.

Roslba de Anchoriz Joy directing little theatre plays.

City may buy home where Georgie Cohan was born, at Fox Point.

Jack Hobby, Florida hotel man, here last week to say hello to Jack Hobby, Victory manager.

New daily paper, Telegram, out. Town's first tabloid. Everybody's trying to guess who's behind it.

Legit fans bothered about announcement Broadway legits at Carlton next season. Town legitless since Opera house razed.

Barney Fay still bragging the Majestic was the first independent house in country to have talking pictures, and Matt Reilly still disagrees.

Portland, Ore.

Charlie Couche fishes.

Bert Lytell got up at 6 a. m. for the Breakfast Club.

Mitzi Hajos rehearsing at the Dufwin for "Petticoat Influence."

George Appleby says there must be no salacious advertising of golf scores in the showmen's tourney.

Jimmy Richardson, Multnomah Athletic club manager, going to stage motorcycle races in the stadium.

Bill Green is new pres. of Cinema Club, grouch aggregation of local showmen. Going to have a golf tourney.

Beauts may mean nothing to Galveston but new bevies of the one-piece femmes cropping up here for summer season.

Town morale zipped up over new real estate prospect. Land is moving. Young cyclone blew the next state over this way in a dust storm. Some suburban indies still digging themselves out.

Tige Reynolds, famed cartoonist for the Oregonian, local daily, died of heart trouble. Tige won several national awards for his editorial cartoons. Often called leading pencil artist on the coast.

Bad "Big Man"

(Continued from page 49)

bellboy at the Ogden Hotel, 50 West 72nd street, and who lives at 2515-24th street, L. I. C. Ohlott was one of three men who visited Mrs. Gibbs at her apartment on the night of the assault.

"Your Honor, I have no desire to prosecute the defendant. He was not the person who assaulted me. While he was one of the three in the apartment, he really went to my aid and tried to prevent the 'big man' from beating me," said Mrs. Gibbs.

Mrs. Gibbs, whose husband works at night, told of the visit of the Ohlott and two others. She declared she knew Ohlott. She told of how she gave them drinks and played the radio. "I also showed them photographs of myself," said Mrs. Gibbs.

"The 'big man' sought to shove me to my bedchamber. I fought him and he began to strike me. He hit me repeatedly. Ohlott went to my aid," said Mrs. Gibbs. The following morning her husband discovered her condition and notified Detective Tom Gorman. Ohlott was arrested subsequently but was unable to shed light on the assailant as he had met him but a few days prior, he said.

Philip Wagner, assistant district attorney, sought an adjournment for further time in the hopes that Gorman would round up the 'big man." Mrs. Gibbs urged the dismissal of the charge against Ohlott, and it was done.

Hollywood Shorts

By Claude Binyon

Hollywood, May 2.

NEWS from O'Malley and O'Goldstein.

Publicists for the Profession.
"We'll Make or Revive You."
Our Rates Make You Laugh.
For The Press:
(Release May 5. Thank You!)

Reports that Olga Yohnson, the screen's foremost siren, was dropped by Scintillant Productions because of an accent are entirely unfounded. Miss Yohnson simply has retired to her magnificent Malibu beach cottage for a couple of years to consider various tempting picture offers.

The public will be glad to know that Betty Snowdrop, star of many Broadway successes, is in Hollywood refusing stellar film contracts right and left. But don't be too sure, for Miss Snowdrop may capitulate yet.

This petite blonde's last sensational performance was in I. Herk's stupendous "Cuticle Cuties."

(PLEASE use this. Drop into the office any time and have a drink of you-know-what.)

Hollywood is gossiping over the attention being paid by a prominent producer to Betty Swank, promising young screen star. It is said the producer has uncovered Miss Swank's innate talent and will give her a prominent part in his next picture.

Fagged by continued hard work at various studios, Magdalene Martel is resting at her magnificent Beverly Hills home. Many friends are calling her at Or. 6063 and congratulating her. She is home between 9 and 5.

Miss Martel says she may be induced to accept another engagement even though she is tired.

Besieged by people who ask if his perfect, white teeth are really genuine, Harry Hancock gets many a chuckle. People who saw Harry in the battle scenes of "All Quiet on the Western Front" can't believe that those dazzling molars are really a part of t..e brilliant actor.

Pansy Prim, former vaudeville partner of Eddie Cantor, Al Jolson, the Four Marx Brothers and Mrs. Fiske, is vacationing in Hollywood at the home of her sister. The vaudeville critic of the Applegate (Wis.) "Citizen" once wrote that "Miss Prim looks so much like Mary Pickford it's a wonder she wasn't conscripted by the great motion picture industry long ago."

Is it perfectly proper for ladies to wear the new pyjamas at afternoon affaires d' tea and dansants d' dinner? Many social leaders have been baffled by that problem, but now comes Sarah Sarah Sarah, beautiful English actress, with a stamp of approval.

"Of course it's proper," says Sarah Sarah Sarah, lying down in her dressing room between scenes of "Dynamite Kid" at Tec-Art Studios. "We've been doing it for years in London. It adds that certain chicky aura of haunting cherchez la femme, so dear to the hearts of women who know their stuff."

Free Fillers for Your Picture Pages

Helen Ha twell glimpsed on the Boulevard wearing a stunning green dress that must have cost a fortune.

"It isn't the original cost of my three town cars," say Mary Logan. "It's the upkeep."

What Parisian designer makes Mitzi McGuire's gowns? They're gorgeous.

Charles Chancer has purchased a pretentious new home in exclusive Beverly Hills. While Chancer refuses to discuss such mercenary matters, it is rumored the house cost around $123,671.62.

Director's War Book

Harrison - Smith will publish "With My Own Eyes," an account of Richard Boleslavsky's experiences while a colonel in the Russian cavalry during the war.

Boleslavsky is a picture director, now under contract to Radio on the coast.

8,000 Squares a Day

The Astor uses more food than any hotel in New York. Serving 2,700 banquet plates is a light business; when it gets around 5,000 the waiters become interested and the hotel has served 8,000 in one day—also 15 banquets all starting at the same hour.

It's believed a local record.

McBride Coin Carriers Lose $1,639 to Bandits

The three affable bandits who held up and robbed two messengers of McBride's Ticket Agency of $1,639 in cash and $755 in checks are still being sought for by detectives of the West 47th street station. The stick-up occurred at the rear entrance of the Dixie hotel, 250 West 43d street.

Stanley Buzzanowski, 21, 326 East 83d street, and Michael Pellegrino, 18, of 51 Vernon avenue, Astoria, left McBride's to go to the Corn Exchange Bank. As they reached the 43d street entrance of the Dixie three men approached them from the rear. Pellegrino carried the money in a portfolio. Buzzanowski was his bodyguard, but had no gun. One of the bandits stuck his hand into Mike's ribs and seized the bag of money, whispering to him to make no outcry.

"Come with us," the bandits commanded. One bandit preceded the veitims and the other two through the crowded lobby of the Dixie. On the 42d street side the bandit with the money haled a taxicab. The victims feared to make an outcry. The bandits, once in the cab, showed the victims a revolver. "See," he said, "we meant business."

They told the chauffeur to drive to 37th street near Tenth avenue. They dismissed the chauffeur. Meantime the bandits guided the victims up a darkened hallway of a tenement to the third floor. "Be quiet," they were warned. The bandits then disappeared. The victims went to police headquarters to scan the rogues' gallery, but met with no success.

After Gibson's Houses

New York interests are reported seeking the John T. Gibson theatres, Gibson and Howard in Philadelphia.

Gibson is reported willing to lend an ear. Two years ago he refused an offer of $800,000 for the two houses.

Some Tenants Resist Radio City Expulsion

Razing of buildings in the Radio City territory starts Monday (11), with about one-third of the residents already out. About half of the people occupying the various buildings in the three blocks were scheduled to move Friday (1), with most putting up no argument.

Others in the blocks are scheduled to move at various days during the present month, with leases or special agreements falling due.

According to Robertson & Todd, engineers of the project, there are still a few holdouts in the three blocks who don't want to move, but they will be dealt with summarily with no legal way of restricting expulsion.

By the beginning of June, according to the engineering firm, work of razing will have progressed all along the line to the point where digging of foundations can be started.

Joe Lewis on Coast

Joe Lewis, the nite club m.c., is going west to open May 14 at Olsen's Plantation in Hollywood. He closes at the Calais, New York, this week.

In the Hollywood spot Lewis will head the floor show on a reported guarantee and percentage arrangement.

Olsen is taking his band to the Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, for two weeks prior to opening at the Dells, Chicago, May 14, for the summer.

Burlesque Girls' Roof Top Siesta Has Window Draw

Burlesque men are trying to figure on a method whereby they may expand the gross to include roof performances now being given gratis. Peekers from surrounding office buildings watching the sun bath on the Republic roof number more than the week's gross downstairs.

The girls go on top to get some air between shows and in scant attire.

PICKING UP DIPS

Detectives in Campaign on Theatre Pickpockets—One Given 6 Mos.

A campaign by the detectives attached to the Pickpocket Squad at Headquarters to clean out theatres in Times Square of jostlers and pickpockets has started. During the past month the sleuths have rounded up many with police records who are adept at lifting purses from seats in front of them.

Louis Lacker, 42, known to the sleuths as the "Barber," was bagged in the Roxy theatre by Detectives Tom Catterson and Tom McVeigh of Headquarters. The cops saw "The Barber" jostle two men patrons waiting for seats, they testified.

They whispered into Lacker's ear he was under arrest. He made no protest. They escorted him to the West 47th street station and later to West Side Court.

When the sleuths searched him at the station they found in his pocket 20 capsules of opium, they alleged. An additional charge of possessing narcotics was lodged against Lacker.

In West Side Court Magistrate Burke sentenced "The Barber" to six months on Welfare Island. When released he will be tried in Special Sessions for possessing the opium.

Cook Turned Down Offer Of Numerologist's Visit

The Grand Jury will hear the facts in the case of James Coffman, 46, numerologist, astrologist and psychologist. Coffman, who resides at the Marseilles hotel, 103rd and Broadway, was recently held by Magistrate Dreyer for the action of the Grand Jury on the charge of grand larceny.

In asking for high bail, Assistant District Attorney Philip Wagner informed the Court that other women were present who alleged they had been victimized. Magistrate Dreyer disregarded this in setting bail as none of the others had made formal complaint.

Mrs. Anna Quell, 57 West 73rd street, cook, narrated on the witness stand how she parted with $2,000 to Coffman. She testified she had taken lessons on numerology from Coffman and had read many of his tracts.

"I told Mr. Coffman I intended to buy some lots at Jones' Beach. I had drawn $450 from the Central Savings Bank. When he learned that I intended to buy lots, he suggested that I purchase shares in 'The Enumeration,'" she told the Court.

"The Enumeration" is said to be a trust estate, according to Coffman's attorney. Mrs. Quell further stated that she was to receive $10 a month from her investment in "The Enumeration." She had received about $50, she averred. She also gave Coffman a tithe of $5 every month. The tithe, she stated according to the Scriptures, was for the care of the needy. She stated Coffman told her he had occult powers, she asserted.

"He told me he was the Master of the White Brotherhood cult that make their Mecca at the top of the Himalaya mountains.

"When I gave him the money in two payments he caressed it and blessed it. He told me once that he could depart from his physical body and could visit me at night. I asked him not to as I feared anything like that," said the cook.

Coffman, through his attorney, denied the charge and stated that Mrs. Quell bought shares in "The Enumeration." He stated she had a certificate for her shares.

Coffman's lecture rooms and his offices are at 153 West 72nd street.

'Round the Square

License Renewals Due

Operators' and chauffeurs' licenses for motor vehicles in New York State expire May 31 this year and must be renewed before that date. Renewals are now available at the offices of the Motor Vehicle Bureau in the State Office Building, Worth and Center streets, New York; 150 Court street, Brooklyn; State Office Building, Albany; branch offices at Utica, Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo, and also at all county clerks' offices throughout the state, except Albany, Manhattan and Kings counties.

Charles A. Harnett, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, advises theatrical people holding New York licenses that they must renew the certificates. He will establish several branch offices in New York within the next 10 days. He also urges all performers to use the mails and save waiting in line.

A Broken Heart

James Finch, 27, Negro giant, died in Harlem Hospital, New York, last week of uraemic poisoning. To those who knew the man since coming to New York, they believe he died of a broken heart through his inability to be an actor.

Finch reached New York with every hope of being a stage attraction. Irvin C. Miller, colored producer, tried to sell him to shows without success. The best Finch got was one week at the Lafayette although he had been with Miller's "Brownskin Models" for a short time when the management of the show, Mrs. Blanche Thompson, found him stranded in Detroit last December and carried him to Baltimore where the show closed. It was then Finch decided Broadway was his goal.

Finch weighed 670 pounds and was seven feet four inches tall. He became quite a street figure around Harlem. As he continued to grow despondent over his failure to get a theatrical job, Miller arranged with the Adler shoe interests to use Finch as a street ballyhoo. And they moved him all over New York even to assigning him to sandwich man duty in Times Square.

He collapsed and was sent to the hospital where he was for five days prior to his death. His home was originally in Atlanta.

NEW YORK THEATRES

DWIGHT DEERE WIMAN presents
MARY BOLAND
in Paul Osborn's Comedy Hit
VINEGAR TREE
7TH BIG MONTH
PLAYHOUSE W. 48th St. Eves. 8.40. Matinees. Wed. and Sat., 2.40. Byrant 9-2628

Die Försterchristl
(The Foresters Daughter)
Viennese musical screen romance. Music by Granichstaedten, with melodies by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. All star cast: Irene Eisinger, Oskar Karlweis, Paul Richter, Andre Pilot and others.
BELMONT Theatre, W. 48th Street Contin. Noon to Midnite

Getting Married
By BERNARD SHAW
Eves. 8.40. Mats. Thurs. and Sat., 2.40.
GUILD THEA. 52nd St., West of Broadway

"Brisk, exciting, the best that has come thins way in sme time."
—World-Telegram.
"The RAP"
AVON THEA., W. 45th St. Evs. 8:40
Mats. Thurs. & Sat. at 2:30

DAVID BELASCO presents
HELEN GAHAGAN in
"TONIGHT OR NEVER"
"Miss Gahagan has a powerful, well-trained voice of operatic dimensions and could make her mark as a singer if she were not also an actress of extremely high voltage."—Robert Littell, World.
BELASCO Thea., W. 44th St. Evs. 8:40. Mats. Thurs. and Sat., 2:40

ROXY 50th St. & 7th Ave.
THREE GIRLS LOST
A Fox Movietone Picture
Loretta Young, John Wayne
Lew Cody
On the Stage—FLOATING FIESTA
with Complete Ensemble
MICKEY MOUSE in "Traffic Troubles"
Beg. Friday, May 8, "YOUNG SINNERS"

A. H. WOODS presents
ARTHUR BYRON in
"FIVE STAR FINAL"
CORT THEATRE 48th Street East of B'way
Evs., 8:40. Mats. Wed. and Sat., 2:30.

Wallace BEERY
THE SECRET 6
IRVING AARONSON'S COMMANDERS and Gala Revue
CAPITOL B'WAY & 51st St.
Coming: MARION DAVIES in "IT'S A WISE CHILD"

MAX GORDON presents
Clifton Webb
Fred Allen Libby Holman
in
"Three's a Crowd"
"Greatest revue ever produced in America."—Garland, Telegram.
SELWYN W. 42d St. Evgs. 8.30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 2.30

RKO
MAYFAIR B'way & 47th Continuous Shows
SECOND BIG WEEK
CONSTANCE BENNETT
in "BORN TO LOVE"

Gilbert Miller presents
"The outstanding dramatic success of the season."—Burns Mantle, News.
Tomorrow & Tomorrow
A NEW PLAY BY PHILIP BARRY
with Zita JOHNSON & Herbert MARSHALL
HENRY MILLER'S 124 West 43d Street
Evgs. 8:40. Mats. Thurs. & Sat., 2:30

GLOBE B'way & 46th Cont. Shows NOW
SUBWAY EXPRESS
with JACK HOLT
AILEEN PRINGLE

"A splendid American playwright at her best."—J. Brooks Atkinson, N. Y. Times
JOHN GOLDEN presents
AS HUSBANDS GO
by RACHEL CROTHERS
JOHN GOLDEN Theatre, W. 58th St. Cir. 7-5878
Evgs. 8.30. Mats. Wed., Thurs. & Sat., 2.30

PALACE 47th St. & B'way Mats. Daily, 2.30
ED WYNN
PETER HIGGINS
BUSTER WEST
ROSETTA DUNCAN

ROBERT E. TARLEY, President of the N. Y. Rotary Club, says:
"A remarkable and delightful performance—unusual and refreshing. Deserves its great success."
THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL
APOLLO Theatre, W. 43d St. Eves. 8.40. $1 to $3. Including Saturday Mats. at 2.40. Wed. $1 to $2. Mat. $1 to $2.
Phone for reservations WIs 7-2466

58th ST. Bet. Lexington and 3rd Aves.
Wednesday to Friday—May 6 to 8
ALL THIS WEEK
CIMARRON
with RICHARD DIX
IRENE DUNN

86th ST. Cor. Lexington
Wednesday to Friday—May 6 to 8
ALL THIS WEEK
CIMARRON
with RICHARD DIX
IRENE DUNN
AND RKO ACTS

The Parisian Front

By Christine

Paris, April 26.

Well, my dears, what Madame Chanel said about you the minute she stepped off the boat still gives the palm to French women for sex appeal. She didn't seem to agree with what this sobbie has been hearing over here during over two years' stay. That is that American women are the best dressed in the world.

Oh no, Madame Chanel said the way you dressed is positively grotesque, not to say slightly mad in an effort to attract the male eye. But never mind, remember that there are two sides to every question, and that Madame Chanel being a dressmaker has caught hold of the extreme end of one side.

Just to show how she has generalized in this one particular, it is necessary to mention that she also largely stated American women do not gossip. That proves everything.

Perhaps no girl in the world dresses so poorly as the French chorus girl (they can't help it, the poor things, when their salaries are less than $40 a month), nor so dowdily and uninterestingly as the French business girl. The boulevards here compared with Fifth avenue at lunch time suffer horribly as far as smart looking women are concerned.

In France one must either pay nothing at all for hideously cheap clothes or a very great deal for smart ones. No $10 and $15 dresses, nor $5 hats that bear inspection. You either dress from a department store's counter or from an exclusive dressmaker's salon. Besides, French girls do not have the figures that American girls possess—and, furthermore, they are nearly always in mourning for a great-aunt or a fifth cousin or a friend's nephew. This ancient custom means cotton stockings in black, of course, and a dusty crepe veil.

Hat Display

The mid-season collections are on, and although not generally so elaborate as the big winter and summer ones, there was an opening recently that outdid itself in originality. That was Agnes, the hat maker. It started at 9 in the evening. First thing was the queer music from stringed instruments, tom-toms and what-nots from the French colonies. Negresses also from the colonies, dressed in their own very loud colors and with strange head-dresses passed around the refreshments in enormous straw hats. All this, of course, because of the Colonial Expositions to open May 1.

The hats she showed, thank Heaven, had brims. The most important one had a crown of soft knitted or crocheted silk jersey with an equally fine straw brim. It was very snippy and sat on the side of the head at a decidedly flirty angle. Also turbans, but even these based on French Indo-Chinese hats had stuffed rolled brims. Plaid cotton ribbon made into toques looked quite like the Martinique negress bandannas, but because Agnes is so darned original and clever managed to seem ultra new and modern. Pointed crowns were also outstanding, but if you get one don't set the point in the middle of your head. It won't do—it's got to come out on the side somewhere.

Talk about a showman who knows her stuff, Agnes is one. She gets her ideas from a current event like the Colonial Exposition, or once before a Jeanne d'Arc celebration she saw, at which she modeled her hats from the caps worn by the men.

A Spanish Order

While on the subject of fashions you might like to know that the recent Spanish upheaval was quite a fortunate thing for a dressmaker here, although at first she wondered whether her bill for some 200 dresses for the Spanish court would find favor or not. It's a Rue de la Paix dressmaker, who for years made a few things now and then for old Christine, Alphonse's mother. Eventually she started to make simple sports things for Queen Christine's grandchildren, the Infantas, Isabella and Christine; then through a friend she was formally introduced at the Spanish court. The result was that just before the crash Mirande sold to the entire flock of ladies and duchesses and things, and to the Queen Victoria herself. She was in London while the gowns were being made, and when she learned the Queen was now ex and all the aristocrats were fleeing to Paris, she feverishly, as well as worriedly, hurried back here herself. The lucky break was that instead of having to deliver everything to Spain all she had to do was bring them in person out to Fontainbleau, where the Bourbons are now hanging out.

Actor's Ma

(Continued from page 49)

than any of theirs. They seem to keep working. I don't know why you can't."

"You gotta have a drag with the big guys to get in, Ma."

"Well what's the matter with all your friends? You always come home and tell me about the big politicians and other big men you met. Why can't they do something for you?"

"Oh I don't like to ask them. Anyway it's up to your agent. He's gotta to be in right?"

"Well then why don't you get an agent that's in right?"

"Oh he's alright, Ma but he can't seem to get the bookers to catch my act."

"Well why don't you go up yourself and tell them to come and see it? You have a tongue, you certainly shoot off your mouth around the house."

"You don't understand Ma, they won't see me. It's hard to get in their office."

Ma Knows

"Now that's a lie, Jimmy. If you wanted to see them they'd see you. They are always looking for talent. They say so in the papers. I bet if I went up to see them they'd see me. I have a good mind to go up and have a talk with 'em about you."

"Now don't go starting that Ma, I know my business and I know what I'm doing."

"Yeh, and I know what you're doing too. If you'd saved your money instead of spending it in speakeasys and on those no-good girls you go with you'd be better off."

"Leave the girls out of it., Ma. I'm over 21 and white and know what I'm doing."

"Yes, well if you know what you're doing, you'd be working now instead of laying around the house."

" Oh you're just sore because I haven't kicked in with any sugar lately."

Protection

"Now listen, son, you shouldn't say that. It's hard enough to run the house with no money coming in, but I do the best I can. It's lucky for us that I saved some of the money you gave me when you were working, or else you wouldn't even have a decent suit. It isn't the money so much, son, It's that I don't want you loafing around and becoming a bum."

"That's right, Ma. When a guy can't get a job you call him a bum."

"You can get a job if you want to. It doesn't have to be on the stage. Frankie Hayman got a nice job in a bank, and he isn't half as smart as you are. He can't sing or dance as good as you either, and he gets himself a good job in a bank."

"What do you mean a good job, 20 bucks a week?"

"That's better than nothing, and twice as much as you're making. And look at the nice people he meets. And he keeps decent hours."

"Oh, stop lecturing me will you, Ma. I'm getting sick of it."

"I haven't lectured you the past three months, and I think it's about time for somebody to say something to you. I've given you carfare and spending money every day, I press your suits and do your laundry. You know what would happen to those silk shirts of yours if I ever sent them out. I have supper ready for you every night and you never come home for it. You get in 4 and 5 in the morning, half lit. Now don't say you're not cause I know better. People don't fall over lamps when they're sober. Son, I've been worrying about you every minute in the day. I want you to go to work and forget about those trollops you go with. They're no good for you.

The Mother Idea

" What's the matter with Miss Jackson? I suppose she's a trollop! Ain't she got a swell car and real diamond bracelets, and ain't she given you swell perfume? Is she a trollop?"

"Well anyone that has all them things and don't work, I'm suspicious of."

" I told you she has an income, Ma. Her first husband died and left her plenty."

"Yeh, and now she's hanging around with you! She's old enough to be your mother. She ain't fooling me. I guess you'll run off one of these days and get married to her. I won't stand in your way, but take my word for it, son, you'll regret it the rest of your life if you do."

" Oh, gee, Ma, you get the craziest ideas I ever heard. Who ever said anything about getting married? We're just friends that's all."

" Well do as you like, but I don't know what you'd support a woman on when you can't even support yourself. I'd get a job before I'd think of getting married."

"I told you I'm trying to get a job, but it's slow now."

"There are a lot of actors working in pictures, on the radio and on the stage and you're as clever as they are, and if they can————."

And so Ma keeps up her morning monolog until her baby gets shaved, eats his breakfast and touches her for a two-spot; giving Ma a kiss, a hug and plenty of reform talk, to use the two to take the wealthy widow to a speak.

Speaking of Wives

(Continued from page 41)

on the number. Maybe it was Nelson's "dual personality," which he claimed he was affiliated with. His memory being poor in that respect, it failed him also when he was choosing material for his own act.

Nelson only mentioned the Canada Dry gag, but failed to mention the others. He might write the Canada Dry people and find out about the cases of ginger ale that they sent me from time to time in appreciation of the gag.

The arrangement of "Smile a Little Bit" with its material in its proper form as I sing it, was written by me, so sue me! Furthermore, I don't believe Nelson wrote that letter to you. It smacks of Mrs. Nelson, who phoned me one night and became very abusive in her language because I had taken the matter up with Mr. Freeman. She talked or rather raved for what seemed hours, but Nelson didn't have the guts to get on the phone himself, which proves what?

Proved Ownership

I left my script with Ray Hodgon and proved the ownership of the material he took from me. It was ordered out of his act. That ends the controversy, I believe.

When speaking of "sweet lovable wives and a baby," Mrs. Nelson might take a lesson in "sweetness and politeness, and minding her own business" from Mrs. Glason, who listened in on the phone that particular night and said nothing, while Mrs. Nelson lashed me with her flow of "beautiful language," championing the cause of her Bob Nelson.

Again let me repeat that I didn't write Nelson's act, but had interpolated some gags, and offered to write him whatever he needed. The article in this week's Variety says that "after the story appeared, Nelson, possibly having read it, took a slam at Variety at the Jefferson, from the stage." Well if he did read it, he must have found a copy; I don't think he bought it.

As for the kiss-and-make-up finish, the matter is closed as far as I'm concerned. Outside of this little mess, I feel the same towards Nelson as I always have, and if he needed help, I'd be the first to step forward. *Billy Glason.*

Druggists Complain

(Continued from page 1)

vaude, and even in pictures, without drawing a squawk or a vegetable.

It's evident that there is a wide difference between what audiences will go for in a theatre and what they'll stand over the air. This particular station received yelps from druggists, relatives of druggists and friends of druggists. Some even hinted at slander proceedings.

Insult to Chivalry

But this was not the limit. Just two weeks ago, a midwest station announcer harmlessly thought he was being funny when he dug up that he was trading his chivalry in for an Essex. Every past, present and future Chevrolet and Essex owner in the country seemed to have been tuned in on this poor guy. Not only was this business problem, but every true lover of chivalry—and they are evidently legion—howled at this derision of one of the most exalted of human traits. They openly accused the station of trying to stamp out chivalry, and the station is still busy sending apologies.

As for the stations themselves, the censorship thing becomes more and more stringent. Performers are sweating to find proper comedy material because of the must notes. It seems that no matter what they say, they're bound to step on somebody's toes.

Pat and Mike jokes are out. They might offend the Irish royalists. Ikey and Abey can't be mentioned, and the Scotch joke, final refuge, is going to be given the official gate.

Uncommon Chatter

By Ruth Morris

Wynne Costumes Win

A discussion of Palace costumes ignoring the assorted raiment Ed Wynn drapes about his rotund form would be incomplete and biased. Beyond doubt, style honors go to the lisping comic whose clothes are sagely chosen for unobtrusive comedy.

Rosetta Duncan, with only one new song to vary her recent Palace appearance, was lucky to have been spotted on the same bill with Wynn.

The Ingenues entertain solidly, wearing down resistance to girl bands with one versatile feat after another. There appears to be nothing they can't do, no instrument they can't play. If anything, they are too eager to show manifold talents, prolonged almost interminably. Their background conflicts with a lavish display of musical instruments, confusing enough without additional intricate embroideries to distract from the main grouping. Platforms made of richer materials would improve the act's style, as well as more individual attention to makeup and grooming.

A tall blonde, well groomed in dark blue lace, is the perfect assistant for a young man who does miraculous stunts with sticks and rubber balls. She looks so worried when the tricks don't work, smiles so proudly when they are finally accomplished, that the audience shares her anxiety and ultimate triumph.

Tougher Hoodlums

What is the film industry doing to its gangsters, those brave killers who faced danger unflinchingly, who robbed from the rich to give to the poor? What has become of those gallant roughnecks who revered women and children, whose hearts melted at the sight of a stray dog? Gone, all gone. Hollywood has put them on the spot.

Their dear places have been usurped by unrelenting racketeers without a streak of pity in their brutish make-ups. The prevailing unglorified type has no appeal for feminine audiences, gradually drifting away from unidealized versions of racketeering.

"The Secret Six" is the latest gang film to deny women the right of breaking their hearts over a gunman's inevitable progress toward the electric chair. No gal is going to waste sympathy over a brute who gets what he deserves, nor can she be deeply moved by a hero who enters the story too late, sketched in vaguely as a gang-defying reporter. The authors were no more mindful of the love interest than is Jean Harlow, the tough cigarette vender. Confident that she screens well, Miss Harlow permits no big thoughts to trouble her placid brow, no emotion to take form behind her wide, often vacant stare.

86th Street Fashions

Myrtle Glass may not be the best-dressed woman in vaudeville, but she certainly is the most persistent. Forced to work every moment for the privilege of singing a song, she finally triumphs over the conspiracies of off-stage stooges, collapsing props and a partner, Jimmy Conlin, who is drawn away from piano accompaniments through pleasantly insane diversions. Resistance battered down, she ripples off a verse and chorus in agreeable, unaffected style, her attractive stage presence rising above a gown dated by bouffante arrangement of yellow tulle on a taffeta foundation. An unprogrammed assistant in the act, current at the 86th Street, wears a simple white crepe costume that emphasizes slim youthfulness.

The Hazel Manjean Girls make amends for their initial, poorly executed routine by trim appearances in white flannel beach pajamas and deft acrobatics performed in neat red and white bathing suits.

That Well-Dressed Feeling

Gaiety comes easy to the Chester Hales, dancing to Irving Aaronson's Commanders' bright accompaniments, confident of trim appearances in cunning white sports frocks. The dresses are very cute, one group slit to reveal underskirts of red and white polka dots, the other white dots on green. Tiny white hats perched high on their heads, the dancers weave in and out with the affable high spirits of girls who know they are well dressed.

Christine Marson has discarded the sequins she always wore for strut routines in favor of pearl gray flannel, faultlessly tailored.

3 Girls Not So Lost

"3 Girls Lost" are gals who set out from midwestern homes to see the sights and experience the thrills of a big city. To Chicago they go by airplane, a touch of modern speed and luxury that promises real, glamorous excitement. But once in the city of their dreams they locate in a quiet boarding house, outside of which they are seldom pictured. They tour the city, secure jobs and become involved in intrigues, few of which are shown on the screen. The audience hears about them, second-hand, when the girls return to their lodgings, one with a broken heart and another with eloquent supplies of expensive hats and gowns. Ladies in the audience are disappointed at not being given a peek into the shops whence comes such finery or into Chicago's gay restaurants and night clubs. The one pent-house party they are permitted to attend is so flat that they're sorry they came.

Joan Marsh registers forcefully as the plotting little gold digger who does well for herself in the big town. A platinum blonde with a baby face, she projects the schemes of a shrewd, competent conniver. Loretta Young and Joyce Compton complete an eager, youthful trio.

It's a Gift

The peculiar fascination Svengali held for ladies of the nineteenth century is not at first apparent to modern misses who go to the Hollywood, attracted by the name of John Barrymore. But they soon find out that if Sven was anything like Barrymore, he was a clever hypnotist, who, despite a revolting make-up, could turn on his charm at a given moment and enthrall them with the richness of his voice and the gradual beautifying of his features.

For three-quarters of the film Barrymore has a swell time making ladies hate him, even though they laugh at his too, too, funny antics. Then, quite suddenly, Barrymore remembers the feminine sympathy necessary to good box office. He takes heed, subdues an unkempt beard, shortens a pointed putty nose, discards the offensive trick of clouding his eyes for hypnotic sequences, and lets his rich, eloquent voice do the rest. A few minutes of this witchery and feminine fans are ready to feel a bit teary over the passing of a no-good hypnotist.

Marian Marsh finds in Trilby a part excellently suited to her eager, ingenious youth. Though her vocalizing isn't of the quality Trilby was supposed to possess, she sings well enough, photographs interestingly and seems a promising screen prospect. Carmel Myers, freed of heavy vampire mannerisms, discloses an unsuspected sense of humor as one of Svengali's most gullible singing pupils.

Going Places

By Cecelia Ager

When Clothes, et al, Count

The set designer and the costume department are the heroes of "Ladies' Man" at the Paramount. They did their noblest, threw in furs, and smart backgrounds that made fine photographic compositions, authentically swank details for the interiors, and saved the picture. Women are so busy exclaiming over Carole Lombard's luxurious clothes, Olive Tell's beautifully simple home, Kay Francis' lovely white evening wrap, that they don't get the chance to consider the story much.

Carole Lombard proves she not only screens gloriously when lighted with gentleness and care, but that she can act, too. Enveloped in an evening dress which in the Vionnet manner says there's a body beneath, her soft blonde hair coiffed to do right by her bunches of long black eyelashes, and her eye-shadow smoothed on most mystically, she is the girl you remember of the many pretty ladies who move across the screen. She's tuned her mood to match the star's. She gets drunk to forget her heartbreak, but nicely, amusingly drunk, losing none of her appeal. Once again Kay Francis is serene and warm with her voice throatily pleasing.

Olive Tell works hard as a lady fighting desperately to hold her man.

Taken on Subway Ride

The passengers in "Subway Express" at the Globe are a hardy lot. Back and forth under Broadway they ride, face to face with the wide-open eyes of a murdered man, and not one of them flinches, not one of them seeks to evade his ghastly stare. They may stand it, but the audience can't. Somebody might at least have tucked a handkerchief over his awful countenance for the sake of the lady spectators. But no, the picture can't get enough of him. He's in most every shot, close, medium and long from every possible angle, dominating the production long past the time when his usefulness in lending a sense of horror had expired. Ultimately he fills the audience with admiration for the miraculous way he avoids blinking his eyelids. Never for a moment does the cast think it strange they are so close to murder and a corpse. They're agitated enough, but only about getting home on time, and in the meanwhile supplying comedy.

From the placid way they accept it all, a crackerjack murder is an everyday occurrence, apt to happen in the best of subway trains. Aileen Pringle does little save look smart in a black suit so generous about its silver fox one wonders that it was content to ride in the subway. The ladies playing a neurotic school teacher and an Irish housewife mind the director implicitly.

Adagio Dancer's Lot

What wretched lives they lead, these little girl adagio dancers! Tossed about from hand to foot whirled till they get spots before their eyes, handled as if they were just hunks of cells that happened to unite, never treated as the living, hoping, eager young morsels of femininity they really are. No wonder they get thin and have to order smaller and shorter trunks and tinier and tinier brassieres. The time comes when their uniforms shrink to mere badges of courtesy.

Miss Ray, of Ray, Ellis and Larue, in the Paramount stage show this week, is a wisp of a girl in two wisps of silver cloth, a dainty package to be grasped and flung, as if she wasn't something feminine, and if that's to be her lot, she gives in nicely and at least makes it easy for her partners. She's the littlest, lightest adagio dancer with the greatest number of ribs ever seen in a Paramount unit.

Surrounding the team is a "Rose Ballet" pirouetted by the Sanford-Martin Girls dressed in shades ranging from flesh to red and huge headdresses that look like butterfly wings. To some they might be taken for roses after all. Others could think them a Charles Le Maire peasantry dressed up to meet the prince. It wouldn't matter. They're pretty and dance well.

Loretta Young's Serenity

When all about her are ranting, mugging and screeching into the mikes in "Too Young to Marry," at Warner's Theatre, Loretta Young keeps her pretty head. The contrast of her quiet performance with all the tumult surrounding her, sets her off as a likeable little lady, soothing to listen to and winning to watch in her steadiness. For her sake it's unfortunate more people aren't going to see the picture.

Miss Young's serene demeanor can't compensate for the creakiness of her present talker, nor for its lack of interest to the world at large. Nobody cares what happens to the dull and far-fetched bunch of characters provided for this one. Its setting in a small and unexciting town clinches their indifference. Romance is lacking. There are no clothes to admire. Whoever happens to see the picture will like Miss Young's genuineness and wholesomeness. That's about all the entertainment the film offers.

Bankhead Finally Seen

Every once in a while, as "Tarnished Lady" slowly unreels at the Rivoli, Tallulah Bankhead fights her way through the heavy conception of the story to fulfill the extravagant promises made about her. She has an air, an easy way of reading asides, she doesn't falter in her broad English pronunciation, and her manner as a gal accustomed to the luxuries of life is just as it should be.

Her possibilities for sophisticated comedy are a surety. Yet most of the time she's sunk in a turbulent sea of unhappiness with nothing to make her suffering believable. Wracked with the false emotions the story demands, her dramatic work looks just like so much dramatic school acting prompted by a nearby and over-zealous director. Cast for sympathy, the snobbery and insincerities of the plot thwart the production's purpose.

Presented as a lady who can meet Garbo, Dietrich, and Swanson, all at once on their own grounds, a little more study of camera angles, a bit more experimenting with make-up, hairdressing and costuming to determine just what suits her and what doesn't will be necessary before Miss Bankhead may be considered serious competition. She has a long, pointed face with a goodly quota of hollows. Her dark blonde hair, fluffed out and shortened, instead of clinging lankily to her face and continuing down to her neck, could be transformed into an asset. Made up as they are in this film, her eyes have a tendency to appear close-set. The thin line of her eyebrows circle too near her nose and her eye pencilling also concentrates toward her nose instead of eschewing that part and outlining only the outer edges of her eyes to make them look wider apart. Those turban hats are disastrous for the English actress' best possible good. One in shiny beige straw is too like the color of her hair to aid her photographically. Another of black felt hugs her head in a way to accentuate the longness of her face. Her profile is lovely but seldom seen. Close shots of her looking squarely into the camera take up a great part of her footage to her disadvantage.

Much can be done that was neglected in Miss Bankhead's first picture to put over her individual type of beauty. Her voice registers pleasantly low. When given the chance she photographs as an interesting and very beautiful person, an exotic, langourous lady with sad, sad eyes. With a great deal of care and much more forethought than was evidenced in "Tarnished Lady" Miss Bankhead can become a draw. It depends on what happens next.

Hipp's Open Spaces

The last row at the Hippodrome does uncanny things to a spectator, makes her brood about shoes, for instance. Feet on the stage loom strangely large from this vantage point. They set a soul to pondering how quickest to reduce their size. The slippers of Miss Crowell, of Crowell and Allan, started it and the shoes of the lady member of Ross and Bennett kept it up.

Miss Crowell's white footgear with their butterfly bows would shrink if only the bows took wing and flew away. The shiny blue satin slippers of the Ross and Bennett lady ought to go hide their pointed toes under a dull coating. They match her blue crepe dress oke, but they gleam so enthusiastically in the spotlight that they dim her comedy by comparison.

Rassana enters in white toe slippers, balancing herself neatly on long slender, white, silk clad legs, and bringing up the problem of the mean things that toe slippers do to most ladies' feet. She doesn't offer herself as an example long enough for the question's solution, however, as there is a trapeze and a noose for her wrist awaiting her the moment she's through with her Russian dance. She sheds her refulgent beaded cape to reveal strong muscular arms and a lithe form outlined in jeweled white satin. Round and round she whirls in her series of spectacular arm lifts. Rassana is so generous about it that the drummer accompanying her must nearly collapse from exhaustion when finally she's through. The audience thought she was fine and brave. From the last row she looked like a mechanical doll with a good strong spring.

Trans-Lux's Gift to Women

Dowagers dropping in at the Trans-Lux Theatre will be glad to see their old friend Jim Londos again. Wrestling away for dear life, this fascinating gentleman who resembles somewhat the gorilla in "The Gorilla," seems to have as effective a stranglehold on newsreel clips as he has on his helpless opponents.

The subtitles read differently about Londos each time newsed yet it must be the same clip. His muscles are always a-swelling with mighty effort, his foolish opponents are always bigger men, and he's always sitting on top of them. Yes, the dowagers of the Trans-Lux would feel real hurt if Jim wasn't there to go on teaching them toe holds and hammer lock technique.

It's all very well to see Jim every week, but the dowagers' feet start tapping when they've got to look at those same old military manoeuvres with the same old canons popping all the time. David Belasco is sweet, and so is Gertrude Ederle. George Jessel likes to go to banquets and Al Smith's fondness for cornerstones must take up all his time. The Crown Princess of Italy wears becoming tweeds when looking at Libyan troops, and Gertrude Huddleston stayed in the water for eighty-four hours and didn't want anyone to help her out. That man who used to give lessons in pronunciation at the Trans-Lux, isn't there this week. The Trans-Lux dowagers could teach him a thing or two.

Did You Know That—

May 5 marked the first anniversary of the ladies "Dominee Club" in Hollywood....Norma Shearer causing quite a flutter since she arrived in New York, looked too lovely the other day in Saks, wearing a short white fur jacket and white beret...There are those who don't believe that Ina Claire, who is very fussy about her femme support, will do "The Greeks Had a Word for It" with Carole Lombard and Jean Harlow, two warm blondes....Primo Carnera had an accident at 77th street entrance to the park the other day, the owner of the other car didn't have much to say....Leila Hyams is now minus an appendix.... Tallulah Bankhead has the loveliest speaking voice yet for the mike....Johnny Gallidett and Frank Morgan took time off from rehearsals of the "Band Wagon" to see "The Barretts of Wimpole Street".. ..Speaking of that play is it possible that the film interests have passed up Brian Aherne, or have they?...Carmel Myers does a very clever singing bit in "Svengali"....Attendance at the Mayfair was way off.... Two big opposition parties, they say....Bobbie Arnst was there with her new hubby, Johnny Weismuller, as also Edmund Goulding, Frank Case, Mary Nolan (wearing that very pink and white make-up), Pearl Osgood, A. J. Kobler, Barbara Bennett (who wore a very pretty black gown of lace)....Mort Downey, Grace Hayes, Dorothy Hall, Neal Andrews, Catherine Dale Owen, Ruth Roland, Herb Harris, Bobbie Perkins, and J. C. Flippen....They say Leatrice Joy lost two brand new $500 gowns in the RKO Trenton fire the other night.

In Paris

Paris, April 26.

At present in Paris: Robert Hurel, Tod Browning, John W. Rumsey, Gustave Schetzendorf, Grete Steuckgold, Arthur Bodansky, Jed Harris, Harry Lachman, Ruth Draper, Freddie McKaye, Putney Haight, Carlo Zecchi, Gilbert K. Chesterton, Thomas Delanty, Courtney Savage, Arthur Freed, Erik Charrell, Lauritz Melchoir, Betty Balfour, Claire Windsor, Syd Brown, Etta Lee, Arthur Mollison, Mrs. Paul Robeson, James Light.

Hollywood's Charity Hurrah

By Grace Green

Hollywood, May 2.

Even sweet charity out here is done in the grand Hollywood manner. The Hollywood Women's Press Club staged a gala charity bridge and tea at the Montmarte Thursday afternoon (30), and did itself proud.

A wealth of stars, picture executives' wives and other familiar Hollywood personalities turned out. No one knew who the beneficiary was and, strangely enough for a woman, few even seemed curious to make inquiry as to the name.

All Maude Latham ("Photoplay") with the charming assistance of Evelyn Brent, June Collyer and Lucille Gleason, told the $2.50-per-cover patrons was that it was for some needy picture person.

Every major studio and some of the stars contributed the 14 bridge prizes. Gloria Swanson's $100 merchandise order on Robertson's department store was the first prize. And make believe girls won't be girls. One judge discovering an erroneous score card observed that even Sidney Lentz would have had a tough time making that score.

It cost Mrs. Joe E. Brown exactly 33c to win the handsome bedspread donated by Constance Bennett. Mrs. Brown was very elated by her luck considering the other 699 contenders.

Among the commendable ensembles were Thelma Todd's maize sports outfit, June Collyer's brown flowered chiffon frock, Irene Rich's navy blue crepe with white scalloped collars, and Mae Robson's beautifully tailored grey gown with a matching coat and hat.

Aside from Mae Robson's smartly selected outfit, the unusual pep and vitality of this veteran actress drew comment.

Dance on Crutches at Pan

Nothing especially distinctive about the "Broken Dolls" idea at the Hollywood Pantages excepting the number where the girls did a dance routine on crutches. In "Babes in Toyland" costumes, they looked cute as they hopped about beating a rat-tat-tat with their sticks.

Also outstanding in this unit is the poor copy act by the Bennington harmonica band of Borrah Minevitch's original. It may be Mr. Minevitch authorized this California edition of his act as Bennington certainly has all the mannerisms, costumes, etc. down pat, even using the same numbers.

Pyjama Craze Fizzles

The pyjama craze hasn't gone to extremes out here. Perfectly okeh at home any hour of the day or night but they appear rather ridiculous at a supper dance. Some daring soul flashed 'em at the Roosevelt one night. Men particularly don't like it.

A few sillies were seen along Hollywood Boulevard wearing 'jamas one afternoon. Hard to imagine they are cooler by completely covering their lower extremities. They most assuredly have to wear as much underneath as when wearing a frock.

Silver Sequin Has Edge at RKO

One certainly gets his money's worth at the RKO. A first run picture and eight acts and not bad at that. Last week particularly the vaudeville was excellent; even the amateurs were okeh.

For a time it seemed as though all the acts were without a female. The fourth act, Audrey Wykoff with her dad and grandad, came forth to uphold the women's end. Miss Wykoff flits about in a cute little light blue crepe suit and a maize colored blouse, all very becoming to this little blonde.

Another pleasant act is Peggy and Polly Paige billed with Billy Kelly. Also in the act are two others who appear to be sister and mother to Peggy and Polly. All three tall and pretty girls wear clothes beautifully. The twins wore white tiered chiffon gowns studded with silver sequins. Edith chose a light blue satin wisely.

The femme of Redmond and Wells wore a poorly selected all-over, silver, sequin gown which emphasizes her somewhat plump figure. Her Irene Bordoni coiffure is flattering.

The sister of Galla-Rini and Sister made two changes of velvet, one of black and the other of pink, both very attractive.

Chatter

Evelyn Brent and Dorothy Herzog are luncheon pals daily at the Embassy. Latter is p.a. for Miss Brent's husband's new producing firm (Harry Edwards and Jack Buchanan).

Carl Fleming's hammered silver bracelet was given him by a nIndian chief. Great honor.

Kay Francis loves to step on the gas. Not many tickets tho.

Lil and Paul Sloane's three-year-old son has to be sung to sleep nightly by his mother who studied for grand opera.

Carmel Myers resuming her singing lessons.

Believe it or not Mrs. Zilch is a Hollywood maid. And her husband's name is Joe.

The Arthur Hornblows have an adorrrrrable three months' old son. All moving down to Malibu.

Ina Claire is craaaazzzy about backgammon.

Al Newman is being annoyed by a dentist. Ditto Henry Kolker.

Mrs. Edward G. Robinson leaving soon for a vacation in New York.

Pearl Gallup is joining her husband, Bruce, in New York next week.

MARRIAGES

"Peaches" Jackson, former child screen player, to Joe Grasse, non-pro, in Tia Juana, April 16.

Paul Savoy, vaudeville agent, to Anna Vimmer, non-pro, May 2 in New York.

Marjorie Eloise Quick to Wallis Bean, in Allentown, April 1. Bride is treasurer, Lyric, Allentown, Pa.

Barbara Brody to Gordon Kahn, May 3, Los Angeles. Groom is M-G-M contract writer.

S. R. Buchman to Beatrice Rosenthal, April 23 in New York. Groom is the playwright and the bride is a non-pro.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Will J. Harris, daughter, April 30, Passavant hospital, Chicago. Father is stage producer with Publix-B&K.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Burkan, son, May 3. Harvard Sanitarium, New York. Father is theatrical lawyer.

Mr. and Mrs. James Mulvey, a daughter, May 2, in Brooklyn. Father is U. A.'s sales manager in N. Y. offices.

News From the Dailies

This department contains rewritten theatrical news items as published during the week in the daily papers of New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Hollywood and London. Variety takes no credit for these news items; each has been rewritten from a daily paper.

NEW YORK

Fire destroyed the Landisville (N. J.) theatre April 28. Loss is estimated at $10,000.

Peggy Wood is returning next week to New York.

Owen Davis has finished "The Harbor Light," new play.

Harry Davenport, in "Melo," is the oldest living American actor, in number of years on the stage. Jefferson de Angelis second, only about a week behind. Davenport made his stage debut on April 30, 1871.

Boyd Davis, in the cast of "Meet My Sister," has written a play entitled "Heartstones."

Faye Martin, actress, was awarded $4,000 by a jury in the N. Y. Supreme Court as damages for a nose fracture and other injuries she received in a taxi smash in September, 1929. Suit was against Albert Groffman, taxi owner.

Ruth Donald, burlesque actress, unwittingly led police to the hiding place of Joseph (Silk Vest) Dinan, wanted for several holdups. Police say they knew that Miss Donald was Dinan's sweetheart, and trailed her for several days. Miss Donald was not held.

Two employees of McBride's Ticket Agency were kidnapped Thursday (30), taken on a forced motor ride by three bandits and robbed of $1,600. The money belonged to the firm. Stanley Duzzanowski and Michael Pelegrino are the two clerks. They walked out of the McBride office at 1493 Broadway, with the money in a satchel to take it to the Corn Exchange Bank, at 8th avenue and 42d street. They walked down Broadway to 43d street and turned west to 8th avenue. As they got around the corner three men walked over suddenly and jammed guns against the money carriers and told them not to say a word.

Flanked by the bandits the two clerks were marched through the Dixie Hotel to the 42d street entrance and into an automobile. At 39th street the two men were ordered out of the car.

Gus Van, singer, was ordered by N. Y. Supreme Court to pay $9,206 to the estate of Arnold Rothstein to cover a note for debts incurred during the summer of 1928. Van had already paid $2,581 on the note, and the verdict was for the rest, plus interest. Van argued that he had reason to believe that Rothstein had defaulted on a promise to pay off gambling debts to other persons to whom Van owed money. The note represented these debts, he said.

Sale by a syndicate headed by the Chase National Bank of $10,000,000 in 7% preferred stock of Film Securities Corp. to General Theatres Equipment was reported in Wall Street. Chase bank officials refused to comment. Report went further to say that the significance of the deal lay in the fact that Film Securities owns the 660,000 shares of Loew's, Inc., formerly held by Fox Films.

"Cissy," a new play by Maurice Marks, may be produced next season by James W. Elliott.

Ann Harding and her husband, Harry Bannister, have left New York to return to Hollywood.

Vicki Baum's new play, "Pariser Platz 13" will be called "Beauty Parlor" when produced by Herman Shumlin here next season.

Arraigned for socking a process server who came to his home to serve him in a laundryman's suit to collect $20, Morton Downey, singer, was found guilty and given a suspended sentence in Yorkville Court. Downey pleaded he socked the process server for using obscene language.

George Kaufman is back in the cast of "Once in a Lifetime." Moss Hart took his place for about a week, owing to Kaufman being ill. New actor for the part is being looked for so that Kaufman, who wrote the play, can ease off.

Joe Gerson, of the Belasco staff, is out for the job of Commissioner of Education at Long Beach, L. I.

Edward Dean Sullivan goes to Metro to adapt "Night Court," Mark Hellinger's unproduced play. Charles Behan helped write it.

Two sisters will be married May 6 in a double ceremony. They are Olga and Eugenia Zundel. Olga will marry Aaron Hirsch, and Eugenia will become the wife of David Mankowitz, both musicians.

Phillips Lord, of NBC, goes in pictures for Radio. Due in Hollywood in August.

Dorothea St. Claire, former show girl, sat beside her husband, Jerome F. Collins, when he was sentenced to four years in Atlanta for participation in a $1,000,000 mail fraud.

Eddie Dowling, from Hollywood, is negotiating with Charles Miller for the writing of a musical comedy and possibly also a picture, both to be adapted from "Raggedy Ann's Sunny Songs," book by William H. Woodin and Johnny Gruelle. Idea is to have Rae Dooley (Mrs. Dowling) star in both.

Ethel Harris goes with "Crazy Quilt." Ethelind Terry goes to London for "Nina Rosa." Ethel Clark has been engaged for "The Mikado."

Theodore Dreiser is getting together a jury of literati to look at Paramount's version of his "American Tragedy" and help him decide whether it is passable or not. Committee will consist of George Jean Nathan, J. D. Mooney, Herman S. Oelrichs, Dr. A. A. Brill, Fannie Hurst, George Luks, Joseph Hergesheimer, Ernest Boyd, Carl van Doren, Harrison Smith, Harry Hansen, Julian Mason, Burton Rascoe, Pat Kearney, Frank Crowninshield and John S. Cohen, Jr. Says he's going to make Par make any changes in the film suggested by any of the judges.

Samuel Goldwyn has purchased picture rights to "Arrowsmith," Sinclair Lewis' novel, for Ronald Colman.

McKay Morris replacing Louis Calhern in "Give Me Yesterday." Calhern was suddenly called to the coast for picture work and had to leave Sunday (3).

Myrtle Miller, actress and artists' model, who said she was shocked when seeing her partly undraped form on exhibit in a penny-a-peep machine on 14th street, will have to go on being shocked. Supreme Court Justice Gavegan, with whom she pleaded to have her pictures removed, told her he had nothing to say on the subject and denied the petition.

Accused of kicking and severely injuring a policeman who tried to quiet her after a street altercation in which she took part, Mae Brown, 20, dancing instructor, was held for the grand jury in $5,000 bail when arraigned in West Side Court.

Gloria Holden replaces Lily Cahill in "As Husbands Go," at the Golden.

An order restrainging Fred Swallo from exhibiting pictures at Coney Island showing torture scenes from the Spanish Inquisition issued in Brooklyn Supreme Court. Application made by Seph A. Maloney, who says the pictures are copies of originals which he is displaying in Manhattan.

Air-cooled basement of the Mayfair theatre has been leased for 10 years at a gross rental of $225,000 by Charles Zivirko and Henry Seewald, who now operate the Paramount Restaurant on 47th street, few doors from the Mayfair.

Resignation of Major Gen. James G. Harbord as chairman of the board of directors of RCA is expected in order that Gen. Harbord may devote his entire time to the Republican party. Probability David Sarnoff, now president, will shift to chairman of the board after Harbord resigns, with M. H. Aylesworth going in as RCA president.

Thomas F. Bleistein, burlesque comedian under the name of Bozo Snyder, filed suit for divorce from his actress wife, Fannie C. Bleistein, April 27 in Hagerstown, Md. Testimony was not revealed.

After staging a $400 holdup in sight of after-theatre throngs on Broadway, William Tunney, 23, was captured and arrested. He claims to be a cousin of Gene Tunney. Tunney got the money by holding up the cashier of the Arcadia ballroom, 1680 Broadway. As he turned away with the money the girl screamed and he ran; chased several blocks before caught.

Sitting in a lawyer's office with his estranged wife and a lawyer in an attempt to straighten out their marital difficulties, Roy Schuster, dancer, suddenly whipped out a gun Friday and shot his wife dead, wounded the lawyer and tried to kill himself but failed. He was not caught. In a dairy which he left Schuster told of his harried life with the woman who had threatened to jail him the following day if he did not give her $410 back alimony, despite he was broke and homeless.

"I do not blame her," Schuster's dairy read, "it is not her fault. It is the fault of a law that makes those things possible."

Robert Aubert, brother of Jeanne Aubert, added to "Wonder Bar."

Mrs. Florence Jane Foreman, once of the films, testified in N. Y. Supreme Court that her husband was so cruel she once spent a night in the Grand Central Terminal waiting room rather than go to his room in a fine hotel. Her husband is Winfield Foreman, 60-year-old millionaire clothing manufacturer. She is suing him for a separation.

Quincy Kilby, author, poet, playwright, actor and for 30 years treasurer of the old Boston theatre, died in Boston May 4 at the age of 77. He was at one time manager of the Walnut theatre, Philadelphia.

Following receipt of a letter threatening bodily injury unless handing over $10,000, George Jessel asked for a detective bodyguard and was assigned three men, one to guard him at all times of the day on three eight-hour shifts. Police are investigating the letters.

Mrs. Louise Bateman Hutton, former Broadway actress, was apprised by her husband, Thomas R. Hutton, Binghamton, N. Y., editor and publisher, that she is just an ex now, a divorce having been granted him in Binghamton courts several days ago. Mrs. Hutton, who knew nothing about it until after it was all over, says she's going to fight to have the decree set aside.

Hyman Niskar, 18, was sentenced to a year and $100 fine in Detroit Friday (1) when found guilty of selling pirated song sheets in that city.

Report from Hollywood stated that Ralph Graves was fired off the Metro lot after he took a sock at a director. Graves was in "Great Lover," in which he and Adolphe Menjou are featured. He got into a verbal argument with Dave Shinborg, assistant director for Metro, which wound up with Graves taking a poke at the director. Shinborg came back at the actor, and it was a few minutes before the pair could be separated.

Shinborg then fired Graves.

"Alison's House" is the season's Pulitzer prize winner, the announcement being attended with some surprise on Broadway. The play, by Susan Gaspell, was presented by the Civic Repertory in 14th street and was performed occasionally along with other offerings of the Eva Le Gallienne rep group.

LOS ANGELES

John B. Fox, circus midget, was awarded $10,000 damages from Jessie J. Coombs, novelty manufacturer, on default. Fox alleged Coombs alienated the affections of Mrs. Nona Fox, who is four feet tall.

Alexander Pantages pleaded not guilty to all counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor girl in connection with investigation of a "party-girl" agency. Olive Day, William Jobelmann, John P. Mills and Jesse Shreve, similarly accused, entered like pleas. Trial will be in San Diego May 25.

Fredric H. Girnau, publisher of the "Coast Reporter," weekly newspaper which attacked the character of Clara Bow, goes on trial June 1 on four counts of sending obscene matter through the mails. Girnau is still in the county jail, unable to raise $10,000 bail.

Lucy Doraine Riethmuller, film actress, and Wolff M. Henius, studio foreign casting director, received final U. S. citizenship papers last week.

Collette Merton, film actress, in applying for temporary alimony from Arthur East, actor, told the court she gave up her career for her husband, and feels she can't secure a job in pictures again until securing a divorce. She was awarded $35 per week for 15 weeks.

Descending 3,000 feet in a parachute, Dick Perry, film stunt man, nearly lost his life when caught among high tension wires. Dangling in mid-air, he released his belting and dropped 30 feet to the ground with only slight injuries.

Ted Bullock, theatre musician, was arrested on suspicion of possessing a dangerous weapon. A diner in Henry's cafe gave the loaded weapon to a policeman, saying Bullock had handed it to him to keep during a proposed fight.

Trial of the suit filed by Edith Higgins against Howard Hughes, film producer, has been set for January 20, 1932. Miss Higgins asserts Hughes owes her $1,750 on a verbal agreement. She was accused previously by Warner Bros., where she was a stenographer, of pirating the script of "Dawn Patrol" for Hughes. Charges against her and co-defendants were dropped.

Mrs. Mildred Marsh Forster, former actress, filed suit for separate maintenance against Ygnacio Forster, charging infidelity. Among women named is Hazel Howell, film actress. Mrs. Forster wants $300 per month for support for their three children. Complainant is a sister of Mae Marsh.

Theodore von Eltz, film actor, filed an affidavit against his ex-wife, Mrs. Peggy Prior von Eltz, actress, demanding custody of their two children. He claims Mrs. von Eltz is not morally suited to care for the children, alleging she told him she didn't believe in the conventions of marriage.

Ray West, orchestra leader, has disappeared again, according to police reports. Last year he disappeared, only to be found "resting" a week later in Catalina.

Frederick H. Girnau, publisher of the "Coast Reporter," which recently waged a morality attack on Clara Bow, was released from the county jail on bond of $6,000. Girnau is facing four Federal charges of sending obscene matter through the mails.

Jack White, film producer, filed suit for divorce against Pauline Starke, actress, charging cruelty, intoxication and other failings. Miss Starke recently filed suit for separate maintenance, asking $750 monthly and division of community property valued at $100,000. White asserts his wife has an independent income of $350 monthly.

Alice Polk, radio singer, filed suit for $50,000 damages against Robert H. Nicholson, charging he saw her waiting on a street corner for a bus, picked her up, attempted to make love to her, and when she resisted he handled her roughly. Nicholson is wealthy and married.

Mrs. Clarence Kolb, wife of the comedian, was badly lacerated by an alley cat when attempting to stop a fight between the cat and her small dog.

Mrs. Irene Edwards, contesting the divorce suit of Clifton ("Ukulele Ike") Edwards, denied charges of relations with Austin J. Young, musician, whom Edwards named as co-respondent. Mrs. Edwards also asks the court to compel her husband to pay money assertedly due under a property settlement effective nearly a year ago.

Marshal Neilan, film director, told the court he was $9,500 in arrears in alimony for the support of his son because of unemployment. Explaining that he expected to go to work shortly, hearing was postponed until June 1.

Camille Rovele, legit actress, is defendant in a suit, charging fraud in a real estate transaction, filed by John H. Huber, former cafe owner. Huber avers that the actress, J. P. Oleson and C. F. Wingfield gypped him in swapping his restaurant for two lots.

John McCormick, former producer, cabled his proposal of marriage to a Mrs. Gattis of Beverly Hills. She sailed for Hawaii last week, where they will be married and spend their honeymoon, returning to Beverly Hills to live, it is said.

McCormick recently left Hollywood with the declaration he would never return. Upon landing in Hawaii he stated he was to be married to Dorothy Mackail, film actress, some time this month. That falling through, he cabled Mrs. Gattis. May 13 is the date Colleen Moore's divorce from him becomes final.

Frederic Girnau, out on bail on a Federal charge of sending obscene matter through the mails, revisited the sheriff's office to demand the arrest of two men, one said to be Guy Rockwell, former Federal convict, who attempted to shake down Rex Bell, friend, and Robert Bow, father of Clara Bow. Girnau's arrest was in connection with articles he printed in his "Coast Reporter" purporting to "expose" Miss Bow's private life.

LONDON

Sheffield (Yorkshire) film censorship, which exercises options over the general decisions of the British Board of Film Censors, has come in for another panning from the trade through banning "Outward Bound," Warner talker, which was refused a certificate by the official censors, but got by with most local authorities all the same.

Edgar Wallace has given up the idea of standing for Parliament as a Liberal candidate, saying Fleet Street demands so much of his time, now he is an editor.

"The Evening Standard," London evening paper, ran a ballot to determine Sunday opening opinion among its readers. Result was 15 to 1 in favor of opening.

Clarence Johnstone, one of the colored singers from the Layton and Johnstone vaudeville team, had $35,000 worth of stuff lifted from his flat.

Charles Gulliver bought a race horse for just over $500 and it won the Metropolitan April 20 with a purse of $4,400. Gulliver, who never bets, put 25 cents each way on it, and the Tote paid 80 to 1, the bookies paying 20 to 1.

Book Society's choice for the month is "My Northcliffe Diary," by Tom Clarke, editor of the News Chronicle. Listed as the best book yet written on the big noise of Fleet street.

Eddie Guerin, who escaped from Devil's Island and became notorious through his association with "Chicago May" in the States, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for theft.

Noel Coward has completed "Post Mortem," play of post-war life and manners, with no production set so far.

Edgar Wallace has now written the book of "Rome," musical with score by Jose Podilla, which is to be produced in London some time in August.

J. B. Fagan moved "The New Gossoon" from the Apollo to the Duchess, and is changing the title to "The Girl on the Pillion."

'Play or Pay' Shorts

(Continued from page 32)

exchanges are making enough revenue from the double features to more than repay for the minor losses on shorts. It is a fact that exhibs are using product at present that they formerly wouldn't look at. Demand for pictures is so urgent they are buying up the quickie material dished out by the cheapest of states right outfits.

Old Pal, Duress

The exhibs also maintain that they will plea in the courts that they signed for shorts under duress. They threaten to take these cases to the equity courts with statements that the exchanges forced them into pledging themselves f r the one and two reelers by withholding features. And if not actually withholding features, the exchanges boosted the prices for features to such ridic figures that they were still forced to sign for shorts in order to get reasonable prices on the features.

Much haggling with the exchanges in a fever to get their contracted shorts billed. But the exhibs merely shrug their shoulders and refuse to date the shorts. Both sides are waiting for a show-down.

Block Booking

(Continued from page 27)

big circuits and then sell to the indies who have the most dough. If the exhib wants exclusive run they have to take all the pictures, which, in the estimation of these spokesmen, gets the block down to nothing more than a block except for the cheapest grinds.

Hollywood, May 5.

The most important change in Radio Pictures' distribution plan for 1931-32 product calls for playing of over half its feature films on percentage. A flat rental system goes for the remainder. Elimination of "sales quotas" among the selling crew, and individual advertising and publicity campaigns for each picture, are the other two most salient decisions. This was decided upon at the sales convention here which ended Friday (1).

Decision as to which pictures will be precentage-booked will rest with a committee of seven home office executives.

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15 YEARS AGO

(From Variety and Clipper)

Billy Sunday's opening in Kansas City for revival meetings kicked the bottom out of show business. Sunday's opening sermon drew 37,000 people.

In the 26 weeks "Fair and Warmer" ran at the Eltinge theatre, it was said to have played to a gross of $320,000.

Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, lured into vaudeville.

Broadway's summer shows lining up for rehearsals. Three musicals in sight, "Step This Way," "Follies" and "Passing Show."

Mike Donlin, famous ball player, permanently gave up the stage, going to Long Branch, N. J., where he handled the local ball team.

Lincense bureau after unlicensed theatrical agents. Claim made learge percentage of agencies operating unlawfully.

Records disclosed 107 less picture theatres in Greater New York than year before. Those out of business mostly store-front nickel admission.

Stock burlesque company at the Dauphine, New Orleans, lasted one week. Police closed the show as obscene. Company sent back to New York at the city of New Orleans' expense.

50 YEARS AGO

(From Clipper)

Railroad train of two cars drawn by the newly invented Fontaine engine, made the run from Amherstberg to St. Thomas Ont., 111 miles in 98 minutes. Fastest previous time same route 169 minutes.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Whiffen were preparing to sail for England early in June to visit Mrs. Whiffin's mother, then 61. They were to present her with a grandchild she had never seen and return to the Madison Square theatre New York in the fall.

Small son of the manager of the Grand opera house, Chicago, while playing in the street, was run over by a hack. Its driver whipped up his horses and galloped away.

Four baseball players were struck by lightning while playing a game near Philadelphia. Daily papers commented at the time strange none but ball players were hit.

The great Bob Ingersoll had a jammed house at the Academy of Music New York when he lectured to men only on "Infidels." Many wives suspecting husbands of infidelity watched the entrance as the crowd passed in. Evidences of rolling pins could be seen under aprons.

Dave Belasco, stage manager of the Baldwin theatre, San Francisco, was dangerously ill from paralysis.

"The wordy eloquence of the gentlemen now working in the U. S. Senate might be utilized and made to give additional light to the dark deeds of the nation by boring a small hole in each Senator's head and introducing a gas jet. The gas supply would then be insured."

With Spring came the Italian organ grinders. Papers said it was a pleasure to hear the tunes without being annoyed with the performing bears or monkeys.

Daniel Frohman who was reported as so capably handling the management of Haverly's Fifth Avenue theatre, New York, the year previously, was engaged for the same position at the Madison Square theatre.

Mushroom-like gardens combining beer, cheap music and cheap talent springing up all over the country, and well patronized. They originated in San Francisco where they bloomed on nearly every block.

Inside Stuff—Pictures

(Continued from page 32)

"That was the only part of those old conventions I paid attention to. How the Boss could throw the whip!"

"Motion Picture Classic," fan magazine, will launch a campaign endeavoring to bring Roscoe (Fatty) Arbuckle back to films. Campaign will start with a sympathetic article and calls from picture goers for pro and con letters.

Several months ago one of the comedy lots gave Roscoe Arbuckle a conditional five-year contract to be effective if it were found that public opinion was not still against the comedian. A four-line newspaper report to this effect brought a storm of protest from women's clubs, and the plan was dropped. Currently Arbuckle is directing at Pathe under the screen name of Will Goodrich, a version of his earlier cognomen, Will B. Good.

United Artists is recalling all the prints of "The Salvation Hunters," freak picture made by Josef von Sternberg five years ago. Picture was made at a production cost of $4,500 supplied by Sternberg, Doris Lloyd, George K. Arthur and Robert McIntyre. Miss Lloyd and Arthur appeared in the picture. McIntyre, then production manager, is now Sam Goldwyn's business manager.

In the five years it was out picture returned over $100,000 to the quartet. When retired next month there will be still $16,000 to be split among them.

The Newman, Publix Kansas City theatre, is out of the daily "Journal-Post" in that city. Explanation is that the management, deciding to cut expenses, sent copy for less space than the house gave the opposition paper.

"Journal-Post," it is said, then wanted the same amount as the other paper or none, and the ads are out.

A friendly attitude among picture interests on the air is manifesting itself. Latest was Major Bowes on the Capitol hour Friday night (1), suggesting to listeners that they tune in on the RKO broadcast from the Empire State building later the same night.

Not long ago RKO worked in what was characterized as a plug for "Skippy," Paramount picture.

Change in the Awards plan of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences provides that no individual or company shall be entitled to more than one nomination for the best production.

If a company has more than one picture in the five final nominations for best-of-the-year, all except their highest rating will be eliminated and others moved up accordingly.

Under an agreement with Sam Harris the picture version of "Once in a Lifetime" will not be released until 1932 by Universal.

A sidelight on the deal is that Harris, just after getting a purchase okay over the wire from Laemmle, received an offer much in excess of the U figure but made no attempt to dodge the bargain.

A taxi driver Monday (4) returned to Bruce Gallup of United Artists the wallet he lost Saturday night while on his way home to Pelham.

The UA ad-pub head rewarded the driver and took his name for passes for the family now and then.

Adoption of the basic agreement and standard contract between picture producers and players, cases up for arbitration have declined to such an extent that since the first of the year the conciliation committee of the Academy has met but once, and that to decide one case.

Recent press blurbs sent out by a film company about one of its femme stars: "In the seven pictures in which Jasmania Umph has played, six have included scenes showing her rising in the morning and three have included bathtub scenes. In her next picture there will be both."

"Born to Love" is the single one of the three pictures included in the RKO purchase of Pathe that RKO-Pathe finished production upon. The other two, "Beyond Victory" and "Lonely Wives" were wholly made by the old Pathe and are released under the agreement by RKO-Pathe.

Recent survey by two or more of the larger chains brings out the worst theatre depression is between Indianapolis to St. Louis and from Detroit to Memphis. Next low section is from Seattle coastward with weather conditions mostly accountable. Third low region is the south.

Vice-President Curtis in a telegram to the Radio conventioners brings out the startling point that:

"Talking pictures are valuable because they give you a chance to see and hear at the same time."

Mrs. Pearl Keating is Howard Hughes' story representative in the east and Marian Spitzer, E. B. Derr's personal rep. on the New York end.

Inside Stuff—Music

In-Hat Offices

In-hat offices are now the predominating style for publishers' out of town reps.

Time when the reps had offices of their own and worked out of them has been banished by the majority of the publishers. Present conditions do not permit the publishers to support rentals and side-expenses of maintaining those offices.

Now frequently two or three reps of different publishers are combined in one office, splitting the charge. More often the rep is just told to carry his office in his hat. If he can't, the publishers soon find a rep who can.

According to tin-pin-alley statisticians, Morton Downey has warbled "Wabash Moon" more than 200 times over CBS.

Downey is named as co-writer of the song on the title page, published by Berlin. For more than three months he has been using it for his theme. He is on CBS at least six times weekly, opening and closing each program with "Wabash Moon." Besides, he has often featured that song in the middle of his program.

Hymn Songs' Air Plugs

Abe Olman, new pop publisher previously with Forster Music, is tying up radio stations as selling agencies for his new book of standard songs, titled Radio Hymn Book. Book sells for $1 direct.

Olman has taken one-minute spot advertising time on three stations, in New England and the South, to advertise the book. He has worked out a plan with these stations whereby for the 15 minutes preceding his one-minute time buy, the stations have sustaining talent feature the hymns from Olman's book. At the end of the periods, Olman gets in his plug. Each station is supplied with the books and announcements made they may either be purchased from Olman direct or from the station.

Gene and Glenn, getting the NBC network each morning from WTAM, Cleveland, on a commercial, are reported to have a financial interest in Olman's publishing business. Each morning these two boys sing a different hymn from Olman's book, with all letters sent them for information regarding the hymns turned over to Olman.

Inside Stuff—Legit

There are no allotment of tickets for "As Husbands Go" in cut rates. The show is John Golden's. It has been among comedy leaders since opening. Leblang's has a substantial buy for the balcony, such tickets generally being sold at box office price or at 50c. premium. Part of that allotment sometimes is dumped into cut rates, accounting for the show's occasional listing there. Leblang's balcony buy extends to May 16.

Ann Harding and her husband, Harry Bannister, were weather bound in Wichita, Kans., two days on account of a low "ceiling," which made travel to Los Angeles in their plane hazardous. Meanwhile Miss Harding received reporters and bevys of film fans who called at her hotel.

Her attitude was made more noticeable because Ethel Barrymore, just previously playing at the Crawford theatre, denied herself to all newspapermen on the pretext that she was tired. In consequence the Barrymore was severely criticized by the press. It's an instance designating why pictures have so far outrun legit, and Miss Harding knows the legit end, too.

Argument over "Hail Columbia!" one-act travesty by Lloyd L. Harris. Harry Green said it was picture material. Harris maintained it would make a play. They took a cast to the laboratory of the Magnegraph corporation and recorded the play on wire, which affords an immediate playback. Green admitted it was stage stuff and Harris is working it up to three-act form.

First instance of a complete playlet recorded on wire. Cast that did it, besides Green, had Joe DeGrasse, Maud Truax, Boyd Irwin, Bram Mossem and Lillian Leighton.

When a legit producing group which has read and turned down plays Sam Warshawsky (Radio Pictures) has submitted, learned that Pathe was interested in the picture rights of "Fastest Thing Afloat," it is now fighting to get legit rights. Meanwhile Warshawsky is mulling over the idea of producing it himself in view of three offers now for pictures, the legit group meanwhile screaming to Sam that "we can get $150,000 for those film rights now."

Warshawsky nearly stunned his friends and the trade by asking $100,000 for the rights himself.

Following postponement of "The Roof" on this season's subscription program, Charles Hopkins, according to insiders, has arranged two deals with his subscribers. Producer planned four shows, did two.

One arrangement was a pro rata system for advanced sums to go towards next fall's shows. Other method was a straight money return, which around 15% of the subscribers are said to have wanted. "Roof" by John Galsworthy, will come in next season.

Looks like Flo Ziegfeld has a chance to get even with William Anthony McGuire for the long waits the former used to stand for when contracted for script was due Zieggy.

Two plays by McGuire are now in Ziegfeld's hands awaiting his consideration. With other show matters requiring immediate attention chances are McGuire will have wait indef. Latter's on coast.

In a letter to members, League of New York Theatres states ticket brokers are to continue liquidation of the $25,000 note to be paid off. League claims brokers are paying only 20% of their weekly allotments, with a full basis to be resumed in September.

Letter, signed by Henry Moskowitz, denies published reports of the nine brokers ceasing payments.

Additional possibility to the foreign plays embodying stage tricks is "Donagoo" by Jules Romain, owned for America by Bory Osso.

Involves 22 scenes about a promoter selling gold mine shares on an imaginary island, with the island happening to be actual.

Using it as a gag Al Jolson nightly tells audiences at "The Wonder Bar" that he would like to be in Louisville May 15 for the running of the Kentucky Derby (it always rains). A railroad agent phoned the other day to ask if Al wanted a private car for the trip.

Leo Bulgakov, who staged and plays the lead in the Russian "Devil in The Mind" at the Fulton, trotted out his temperament one day at rehearsals. Just threw a chair at a couple of stage hands, exclaiming: "You know I cannot act when people stand in the wings."

Assemblyman Langdon Post has been made an honorary lay member of Equity for life. That was announced at a dinner of the Young Democratic Club of which Post is president. The gesture on Equity's part is a response for Post's efforts in passing the amendment to the Padlock law which exempts actors from summary arrests, where indecency charges are made against shows.

Inside Stuff—Vaudeville

Raymond Baird, sax soloist with the Publix unit, "Parlor Sports," is a discovery of John Friedl, Publix divisional director. Four years ago Friedl, then in Dallas, was being pestered by a 12-year-old kid who wanted a chance at Publix's local Palace. Friedl eventually gave him a try and he was oke, but Boris Morros, Publix musical director there at the time, suggested he ought to learn some instrument.

When Baird appeared at the Paramount it was the first time Morros had seen him since then. On Morros' advice, he had picked the sax.

Under present plans, RKO will continue its heavy policy of eight acts and features at the New York Hippodrome over the entire summer.

Though the house was to have been torn down nearly a year ago by Fred F. French to make way for erection of an office building, conditions are such that RKO may continue tenancy of the Hipp for some time.

City Hall Makes Mgrs. Tone Down 'On the Spot'—No Chi Locale

Chicago, May 5.

Censorship problem, annoying the film business here for many years, is becoming serious now in the legit field, with the civic heads determined to restore the name of Chicago.

Fight was expected here on account of "On the Spot," Edgar Wallace gangster play which has for its locale this mad burg. Citizens committee and Mayor Cermak "advised" the Shuberts to cut all references to Chicago, on the grounds that the cracks might give people a bad impression about Chicago.

Shuberts quickly agreed. They have too much money invested in loop theatrical property to take a chance on antagonizing City Hall. If these big boys are crossed, they are apt to suddenly find official complaints to make against these properties.

Chicago appears to be the only town which has formed a dislike to being the locale of stories. On the picture end, "The Front Page" is even now on the fire before the censor board on that score, with a great number of cuts certain to be ordered.

Legally, it's understood that the city fathers have no right to declare a play censorable because it chooses Chicago, or any other city, as its locale. It was on these grounds the city censored "The Racket" and kept it out of town entirely. In the future, all playwrights be warned; it's oke to have your play spotted in New York, London, or even Peoria. But not Chicago.

SCRUTINIZED BENEFIT HELD FOR "JOBLESS"

Although announced to have been called off, an affair which had been under scrutiny of authorities and theatrical organizations was staged at the St. Moritz hotel Monday night. It was promoted by the Jobless Actors' Emergency Relief, Inc., and had been in preparation for several months, during which time the Actors' Fund, Equity and the N. V. A. protested against the stunt.

Those who conducted the "relief" were Samuel Johnson, his wife, Major Edith Ward, known in vaudeville as Marie Clark, Robert Vernon and Edward Owings Towne, counsel. At least two of those concerned have been aided by the Actors' Fund.

The advisory board was headed by Henry E. Dixey, chairman, but at least some of the names, those of well known players in Broadway attractions, knew little or nothing about it. Some stated they had no knowledge their names were used on the Relief's letterheads.

Methods

Henry Hull, named on the board, had the idea the affair was under Actors' Fund auspices and sent a donation of $500. Equity investigated and was able to obtain only vague replies as to how the proceeds would be dispersed to needy professionals. It is claimed high pressure stock selling methods by phone were used to solicit funds, the names of the advisory board being employed without their consent or knowledge.

Henry Chesterfield could secure no satisfactory assurance as to the aims of the group and reported it to the police.

It was first intended by the Jobless Relief to hold a ball but Deputy Commissioner Kelly of the Department of Public Welfare declined to issue a license, that also denying the organization the right to solicit funds. For that reason Equity warned members to investigate before making donations or permitting the use of their names.

At one time the organization is said to have had $6,000 on deposit in a 42nd street bank. Faced with a situation that would have necessitated the return of donations and the refunding of tickets, Monday's affair was apparently put through.

Coast Girl for B'way

Los Angeles, May 5.

Edna Torance, acrobatic dancer, goes east for Schwab & Mandel's new musical.

Will do a specialty and has a part.

BENEFITS FOR CLUBS

Friars Frolic — Summer Show for Lambs

The Friars Friendship Frolic will be given at the New Amsterdam, New York, June 21, with Abbot George M. Cohan in charge. The event is so named because aim to arouse the interest of all the club's friends, even if not members. "Friendship" is also the title of Cohan's new show, it being something of a coincidence.

The Lambs propose to attempt a summer stay at the Cohan theatre, presenting a revue type of show. Idea is to raise funds for its members who have not had engagements. Settings will be those of "Tattle Tales," once slated for the house, and loaned by the Leblang office.

6 Shows Out

Six shows comprise Broadway's definite closing list. Included are two revivals.

"The Bellamy Trial" presented independently at the 48th Street is stopping at the 48th Street, and may not proceed after tonight, which ends two weeks of playing. Could get nothing.

"The Wiser They Are," presented at the Plymouth by Jed Harris, will call it a date. Five weeks. Disappointment after a first $11,000 week, after which it promptly dropped.

WISER THEY ARE

Opened March 6. "Old-fashioned dramagoers will find it pretty lightweight at the price," Mantle (News). "Six-or-eight-week comedy," Garland (Telegram). "Slim but amusing," Winchell (Mirror).

"Variety" (Ibee): "Moderate engagement indicated."

"Give Me Yesterday," presented by Charles Hopkins, closed at the Booth last Saturday. Played nine weeks to moderate money. Opened at the Hopkins and probably could have stayed there twice as long.

GIVE ME YESTERDAY

Opened March 4. "Should not fail here," Atkinson (Times). "Affecting drama," Lockridge (Sun). "Raised the stage from the parlous state," Ruhl (Her-Trib).

"Variety" (Ibee): "Should do very well."

"Getting Married," at the Guild, will close this Saturday after six weeks of fair trade. Much more was expected of the revival. The Civic Repertory ends its season Saturday also. "Young Sinners" stopped at the New Yorker last Saturday.

GETTING MARRIED

Opened March 30. "Dull affair," Anderson (Journal). "Finds Mr. Shaw and the Guild very far from their best," Brown (Post). "Will delight the Shaw fans," Rathbun (Sun).

"Variety" (Ibee): "Should make money here."

Cole Porter Reinstated By Dramatists' Guild

Reinstatement of Cole Porter as a member in good standing has been announced in a bulletin to members by the Dramatists' Guild.

Same Guild bulletin states Harry Ruby, Guy Bolton and Bert Kalmar continue under suspension indefinitely. Herbert Fields, also suspended, is to be reinstated Aug. 24, 1931.

Wynn as All

Ed Wynn will produce a revue which he is writing early in the fall. Wynn is going to do a writing staging, directing, acting job.

He'll spend part of the summer in vaude.

Shows in Rehearsal

"Crazy Quilt" (Billy Rose), Majestic.
"Ebb Tide" (Saul Martell), Geneva Hall.
"Wooden Soldier" (Alex Carr), Longacre.
"Rale McCoy" (Sam Lovett), Avon.
"Bandwagon" (Max Gordon), Erianger.
"Honor Code" (Jack Linder), 48th St.
"Perfectly Scandalous" (R. Gallo), Geneva.
"Unexpected Husbands" (Richard Herndon), Booth.

PRODUCER SUES EQUITY FOR $100,000

Robert Du Roy, co-producer of "Right to Happiness," has started suit against Frank Gillmore as president of Equity, asking $100,000 damages. The plaintiff alleges Equity was at fault in ordering the players in "Happiness" not to further appear; that because the actors waived salary guarantees, Equity was not empowered to so act.

A. T. Sapinsly is attorney for Du Roy.

Guild's Guaranteed Wks For Affiliated Producers

Theatre Guild's idea for the presentation of other producers' attractions on the road under its out-of-town subscription auspices, has led additional managers to seek affiliation with the Guild. The arrangement is virtually a guarantee of three good weeks in Chicago and two weeks in other key cities.

Affiliated producers will share the exploitation and subscription expenses, other than in New York. The Guild expects the bulk of subscriptions in other cities will be considerably enhanced with the strengthened show line-up. There will be no split between the other managers and the Guild, attractions getting the percentages as stipulated in the regular booking contracts.

Cost of tickets to subscribers will be 50 cents on $3 tickets, with cheaper tickets also considered, the reduction to patrons being 15% under regular box office scales.

Gilbert Miller with the Guild-auspiced tours switches that producer from the Shuberts back to the Erlanger office and the booking of at least one of the current season's hits—"Tomorrow and Tomorrow."

GRAUMAN'S LEGITS

"Sketch Book" and "Private Lives" Set for Mayan in L. A.

Hollywood, May 5.

Sid Grauman will bring out Madge Kennedy and Otto Kruger in "Private Lives" for the Mayan under an arrangement closed with Arch Selwyn.

Earl Carroll's "Sketch Book" with Will Mahoney will probably open May 18 at the Mayan, succeeding "Street Scene." Latter two weeks is an extension by one of those "public demand" gags, making six weeks in all.

Grauman's "Once in a Lifetime" closed in San Francisco May 2 after 16 weeks. Ran 10 here and six weeks in Frisco, with Grauman winding up in the red.

Mrs. Rosa Grauman, Sid's mother, is rounding out her 16th week in bed with a broken leg in a cast. Her accident occurred on the night of "Lifetime" opening in Santa Barbara.

Couple of "Trips"

Two shows, foreign, and involving line "A Trip To" someplace, are slated for fall production.

One of the "Trips" is to "Pressburg," Viennese play due in October, Ray-Miner producing.

Oscar Serlin has the other voyage to "Sorrento."

European Runaround

By Frank Scully

Abroad, April 25.

Dorchester House, London's new $700,000 slab, yanked Mike Arlen, the non-rug-selling Armenian, into its kennel for an added plug.

Actually paid him 12 grand for a short story to give class to the souvenir program it distributed on the opening nite.

Hotel henceforth plans to buy quality show names plenty, having already booked Kreisler and Chaliapin for concerts in May.

Tuetonic Invasion

Berlin and Vienna have conquered London at last. The job the mailed fists failed to finish, the playboys completed.

Not only is "White Horse Inn" a clicker, but "Wonder Bar" keeps going, and "Ever Green," helped by the same hand as "Ian," is Cochran's chief consolation for the mo.

Not wanting to risk "The Land of Smiles" against such competition from home, Franz Lehar has left Vienna for London to conduct the opening at Drury Lane, his first job of the sort since 1907, when he bowed in with "The Merry Widow."

Richard Tauber, Czech with a stopover in Paris and the Metropolitan his ultimate destination next fall, is tenoring "Land of Smiles" in the further hope of pulling out Druary Lane.

Only thing left in London for Britons in fact after this Tuetonic invasion are the seats—and they're paying for those.

Lucky Break For Layoffs

"White Horse Inn" was such a smash despite its staggering overhead that future productions are likely to sop up big casts like bread does milk.

Priestley's "The Good Companions" with a cast of 100 has taken so well in Birmingham, an exacting show town, that it stays there till May 9 when it goes to London.

Run On Aspirn

Sinjun Ervine is still telling London what a pain in the neck the Marx, Fratellini and other brothers always give him.

Levy Landing

Hit of sorts among newer offering is "The Church Mouse," with Gerald du Maurier starring. Piece is by Benn W. Levy who did the book of "Ever Green."

Like so much else in London these days, Vienna gave birth to the "Mouse." Original was by Siegfried Geya and Ladislaus Feodor who authored "By Candle Light" also an intercontinental clicker.

"Mouse's" story of an Austrian banker-baron who returns home all steamed up with 100% American go-getter technique till a highly scented gold digger and a mouselike little steno start gnawing at his heart, has a chance to take the banker back to Broadway again.

Translated

The shadings of language as used on either side of the Big Stream have been remarked on before, but the editing of Louis Weitzenkorn's "Five Star Final" is the last word.

Al Woods is peddling it over here. Raymond Massey has bought it and will call it "Five Stars Extra."

Jeritza's Heart Balm

Well, Jeritza won that libel suit and it cost Olga Bauer, one time rival of Jeritza's in Vienna opera circles, $300 to call her "Baggage."

Roderich Muller (ne Guttenbrunn) who authored "Baggage" on Frau Bauer's b.r. got 30 days in stir in Vienna, but the vol is still selling swell among Berlin bootleggers.

American Operas Abroad

Gone to America is George Antheil with the completed opera of John Erskine's "The Private Life of Helen of Troy."

Erskine, who uses a revolving stool to carry him from his piano to his typewritter, is a tremendous Antheil fan.

Antheil would like to get it into the Met and even if he doesn't, it has already been accepted for Cologne Opera House next fall.

As a modest Trenton, N. J. kid he is the first American composer to be accepted seriously abroad. He says that all German composers feel America affords greatest opportunity now for opera material.

Most of them are tapping it, which is why Antheil is in a huddle with J. P. McEvoy to get out an American opera, not with any hope of getting it in the Met, but to satisfy the demands of 400 houses in Europe.

Antheil would like to work in Hollywood. He would particularly like to score Disney's "Mickey" shorts.

As long as Europe continues to be his oyster he would be silly to go out of his way to have his back broken by the Hollywood's hammer murderers. So he will return to Europe in two months, where he and Jack Hylton will try to duplicate Paul Whiteman and George Gershwin as a team for at least one jazz-classic record.

Wallace's Machine Gun Jammed

Edgar Wallace better go back to work. Everything he touches these days go blah almost overnight. His "Charles the Third" went out with Alphonso Thirteenth, folding at the Wyndham in a week.

This was the machine gunner's third flop this winter, not so hot after starting out with "On the Spot."

Sax's Play Duo

Coming in to start producing next fall, Carrol Sax, former operator of the American Theatre in Paris, has acquired two plays. "Lottie Gathers No Moss" by Arthur Wilmurt, and "Cosmo Murphy" by Fred Schlik.

"Lottie" has been produced by Professor George Baker at Yale.

GOLDSTEINS RESUME

Springfield, Mass., May 5.

Samuel and Nathan Goldstein, who disposed of their chain of theatres to Publix, are returning to business.

They have awarded the contract for construction of a new theatre here. Work is scheduled to be completed Aug. 15.

Actors Doubling

Another of those legit offerings with everyone connected doubling in brass is due for New York soon. Alexander Carr is the prime influence. Carr wrote, is producing and will direct play entitled "The Wooden Soldier."

Victor Morley, in the cast, will do the staging. Only other person set so far is Valerie Valaire, who for the time being is contenting himself with acting only.

Miss Aubert Back Home

Schwab and Mandel have abandoned the idea of keeping Jeanne Aubert for another musical after "America's Sweetheart" closes.

Miss Aubert will return to Europe at the end of the play's run.

LEGIT LOOKS DOOMED

Erlanger-Shubert Booking Battle, Or Guild Situation May Force Deal

Erlanger's booking hook-up with Theatre Guild subscription scheme outside of New York is regarded in legit circles as the start of a booking fight between Shuberts and Erlanger's. In that fight, which will also affect New York houses, Erlanger's will have an edge, it is claimed. Situation is also apt to force both firms to some kind of a deal.

With productions by four independent producers, John Golden, Arthur Hopkins, Gilbert Miller and Brock Pemberton, additional indies are figured for the Erlanger-Guild combo. The latter, state indies, is a stronger inducement to book shows than any Shuberts can offer. That includes any possible change in sharing terms the Shuberts may make.

In opposition to the Guild, Shuberts have three subscription schemes working in Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago. In attempt to build up others, Shuberts are reported having Fred Donaghey, former Chicago newspaper man, trying to organize further subscription lists.

Future Danger

Indies say the Erlanger-Guild deal may ultimately result in damaging both their and Shuberts plays' out-of-town chances through inability in New York to sell average shows on the road. That will come through the Guild's subscription bookings being New York hits, with a hit taste cultivation putting in-betweener plays in wrong, if they try to travel.

There have been meetings of late between Erlanger and Shubert execs. The Erlanger office still denies a deal, saying that there would be no benefit accruing to Erlanger's as the result of one, but refuse to comment on the portent of the various recent meetings, vaguely admitting they had something to do with road booking.

One Shubert exec admitted a deal was in the wind, and that feeling among the Shubert forces was that something would be announced soon. He insisted the Shubert staff themselves are quite in the dark on the matter, having nothing more than suspicions.

If the deal goes through, it will probably mean Erlanger's will be, figuratively, sitting on the entire American road booking throne.

New for Shoestringers

Putting shows into rehearsal without production backing as a means to snare necessary financing is gaining popularity with shoestringers.

Aiding the trying producers are layoff actors, willing to take a chance, and sometimes responsible for bringing in partial financing.

Producers' Names Off "Fine and Dandy," with Erlanger's Instead

Rocky career this season of Morris Green and Lewis Gensler has been given another tossing through a billing change on "Fine and Dandy," Joe Cook's musical. Their names have been withdrawn as its producers. Name of Erlanger Productions replaces.

Two reasons are thought to have caused the change, made shortly before the show closed in New York Saturday (2) to go on the road. Principal reason is figured as the producers' difficulties when "Gang's All Here" crashed, adding them to the default list at Equity.

Second reason was traced to Erlanger's takeover of the production shortly before "Gang" collapsed.

Only credit to the original producers, G. & G., was a line stating production had been by Morris Green. Gensler's name not seen on the N. Y. program.

Similar billing, it is said, will be used while touring.

According to report, Green and Gensler may still do a "Greenwich Village Follies." One holdup on the latter, it is stated, is a needed title release from the Shuberts.

Edith Mason Remarrying, And to Her First Husband

Chicago, May 5.

Edith Mason, former Chicago opera soprano, is bound for Milan, Italy, to remarry her first husband, Giorgio Polacco. Latter is former musical conductor of the same opera company.

Miss Mason was divorced from her second husband, Dr. Maurice Bernstein, April 14 in Dallas.

Macloon's Q. T. Bkptcy. Pops Up as a Surprise

Hollywood, May 5.

Louis O. Macloon, who has been in financial difficulties here several times with legit productions, was declared bankrupt in Mystic, Conn., April 13. His local creditors are now getting notices of this.

Macloon's most recent difficulties here were in connection with "Paris in Spring." He produced under the firm name of Atlantic and Pacific Productions, Ltd., and as Stage and Screen Productions, Ltd., with recent judgments placed against the latter.

Lillian Albertson, his wife, and Macloon had a boat building company in Mystic called the Alamac Yacht Corp., which went into bankruptcy last fall.

Bond Waved—2d Try

"The Rale McCoy," Irish play previously announced for production by Samuel Lowett, has started again. Falling through the first time, Lowett is now rehearsing the piece on a bond waiver.

"McCoy" lineup includes Brandon Tynan, Ruth Chandler, John Morrissey, Denny Moore.

MATTRESS EPIC KEPT COOL AS STOCK PLAY

Chicago, May 5.

"Lysistrata" was given for the first time in stock last week at the Kedzie by the Gifford-Roberson Players. West side Chicago got a load of ancient Greek bedroom farce at an advance of 25 cents above the Kedzie's usual six-bit top. Management stated there had been no complaints from patrons or family heads on moral grounds. Business was good but not big in a working man neighborhood, admittedly having its full share of unemployment worries.

It is generally believed among showmen that "Lysistrata" will not be attempted in any city of under 150,000. Under that size they concede the "artistic" pretentions of the mattress epic would be brushed aside by the crusaders and uplifters.

Very few cuts were noted in the playing, but many of the wisest cracks and most suggestive lines were lost, overlooked, played down or muffed. Stock company wrestled rather unsuccessfully with the complicated choral chants and involved poetic metaphor. It was a long jump from the American parlors of the average stock bill to the Phallic Temple of Athens.

Standard wardrobes for American stock actors do not include tunics or togas. And they don't talk tunicish, either.

HENRY BERNSTEIN SO DECLARES

Leading Dramatist of France, in New York on Visit, Expresses Views—No Doubt Talkers Will Wipe Out Legit Theatres

TELLS WHY

"Talking pictures have elevated the screen to the point where there is no longer any doubt that they will completely wipe out the legitimate theatre."

That comes from a dramatist, Henry Bernstein, for the stage famous throughout the world. He has never written for the screen or had any of his plays turned into pictures.

Bernstein, ranking French playwright, is in New York for his first visit, despite several of his plays have been shown here previously. He would like to live here forever if he could only understand "the strange way in which theatres are managed in America," the Frenchman says.

Bernstein states that when talkers were invented a new art was invented which puts every other form of plays into a shadow. They're especially a boon, he feels, to theatrical writers because they give those writers control of their material for the first time.

"A playwright," Bernstein points out, "never keeps his play after he puts in on a stage. He gives it to a producer. Between them they make it as perfect as they can, they rehearse it, fix it up and put it on. Two weeks later it's entirely a different play, a month later it has changed again, and when it goes out on—what do you call it?—the road, no one can recognize it any more, except in that the plot, of course, sometimes remains.

"Not so with a film. You put on a film and it remains just as you put it there, forever. Many changes, of course, before and in between, and cutting, etc. But once it is finished it remains. A little country manager or actor cannot change it. It is yours."

Don't Know Art

M. Bernstein stopped to think that over and decided to make a margin note.

"Not yet, you understand. All that is not yet. The writer has not yet control of his story when he sells it to a picture producer. I have tremendous respect for those producers in Hollywood, despite they do not know art. They know business. They have made the film industry a great one. They are pioneers. Sooner or later they will realize that they must allow writers to have control of their material and will not bother to change completely according to their own will.

"You must realize that even theatrical managers wish often to change. But they suggest to the author to change and they come to agreements, and when the author is finished it remains. With the films it is not so. You sell them your play and then they do what they wish with it ,often spoiling it. That will be changed soon as a matter of course, and a screen writer will then take his place in the class with composers, sculptors and novelists and above writers of stage plays."

One thing that the Frenchman does not believe is that he will ever write for the screen himself.

"I may," he said, "make a film in France. But if I do, I will insist on doing it all myself. If I can get together sufficient money, I will produce, direct and write it myself. Otherwise I will not do it, because it would not be well done, and I feel too highly about films as an art to do it badly.

Strange Theatre

"There is a strange thing there. In America there seems to be an attitude that films are below the regular theatre. It is not so, and I never realized that feeling until I came here.

"But then, the theatre here in New York is strange anyway. Everybody you meet goes to the theatre here. I have met hundreds of people since I have been in New York, from all sorts of professions, and all were present at the first night of my play. In France I would wander around for months before I met half as many people that had seen it any night.

"Another curious thing here are the critics. They write reviews of your play and they tell you that it is—what are the words?—a flop or a hit. They are not interested in that it was well written, how it was produced—it is a hit or a flop. In France the critic is not interested in the money that a play takes in at the box office. He discusses the play as a piece of writing and acting.

"But perhaps it is better as you do it here. I do not know. It is a different country with different methods and manners. I like it very much. I wish I could live here forever."

Summer Stock Schools Helpful to General Legit, but College Girls Expect Just a Joyous Vacation

There are likely to be twice or three times as many summer stock companies with student schools this season as there were last. The student school feature is what makes the summer stocks a profitable venture. It is mainly responsible for their popularity. These summer theatrical companies with students besides are getting to be quite a business proposition.

A summer theatrical school where business may be combined with pleasure appeals as an idea to young people. Usually it is the pleasure they seek. This is particularly true of young college girls from all over the country, many of whom are choosing these schools as the best places to spend their vacation.

They have discovered that in a summer place amidst an intimate group without the strangeness or conventionality of a regular summer resort, exciting times can be had. This is what they are looking for, to such an extent that many serious stock and school managers are deciding to open their theatres this season in quiet and secluded spots rather than take the responsibility of the college girl students mainly seeking enjoyment during the summer.

This is particulary true of those stocks located amidst various summer art colonies. It was expected since the girls had paid their tuition in advance they would want to learn something. But not at all. No one could make them work. They wouldn't attend rehearsals, with most of them out until the small hours on parties with artists and other kindred bohemian spirits.

In several cases the girls remained in the art colonies after their summer schooling season was over. This was the crowning blow to the school managers with students under their wings.

No More

Summer art centers for student schools are likely to be out. However, the idea is as popular as ever with young people. Girls from New York who are seeking a stage career find the scheme appealing. The hot, dull summer months in the city may be escaped at quite a modest expense and with profitable training. These girls and boys are serious as compared to the college sprites.

The general growth of the student school idea has put the summer stocks on their feet to such an extent that now four to five performances a week are given where formerly only two or three plays a season were attempted. Boards of trade in various summer resort towns are anxious for summer stocks that can keep on their feet financially. Theatres at a minimum rental are provided. Audiences in these more or less secluded summer resorts are large because there is little or no entertainment outside of dances at the hotels.

Even in the smallest stock schools about 50 students are enrolled. Managers find that they don't have to have a professional company, as idle actors follow them up to their summer places. The actors get a very cheap room and board and hang around waiting for chances to job.

The stock and school at Skowhegan, Me.; Wauwanda theatre, Haines Falls; Wharf Players, Provincetown, Mass.; Gloucester School of the Little Theatre; Theatre in the Woods, Maine; Maverick theatre, Woodstock; Manhattan Theatre Colony, Bristol, Conn., and Westchester Summer School and Theatre are a few of the leading ones which will reopen besides innumerable others and new schools.

WRITERS BUY AND SELL

MacArthur and Hecht Switch On Producing—Sell to Hopkins

Arthur Hopkins has a new play by Albert Bein, untitled.

The play comes to Hopkins from Charles MacArthur and Ben Hecht. For a minute and a half a couple of months ago the writers decided to be Broadway producers and got an option on it. They concluded it was safer to make money by writing than by producing.

Edith King's Speeding Car May Close Stock In Columbus—Arrested

Columbus, May 5.

Chase Boromeo, member of the Chicago Opera company, and Edith King, leading lady and owner of local stock company, were arrested in the small morning hours last week for running an auto race up the main drag. Both were bettering 65, police charge.

Both gave $50 bond for appearance the next day, at which time they pleaded not guilty and case was continued until late this week. Miss King gave name of Elizabeth Williams when arrested and said her occupation was domestic at local hotel. Newshounds recognized her.

Both speeders face 15-day jail terms and $100 fines for their offense, as it took place in the midst of the city's record traffic drive. No announcement here yet as to what will happen with the stock company after the trial and ending.

SHUBERT'S CHI LEAGUE MAKING MORE PROMISES

Kansas City, May 5.

Plans are being made by the Dramatic League of Chicago, subsidized by the Shuberts, to promote a subscription campaign here for plays at the Shubert next season.

A similar start was made last June but the scheme was dropped. Chicago League says its connection with producers has been enlarged, and that it will have more than the necessary plays for the coming season to insure a resumption of the plans.

Spence's Mystery Meller

Leo Morrison brought east with him on his current New York visit the script of a mystery meller written by Ralph Spence, on the coast.

Play is named "The Crime Club." Morrison may set it for stage production before returning west.

Only 4 Big Money Shows Out of 33 On B'way Now and 3 Are Dramas

Only four shows of Broadway's 33 are getting top money. Three are dramas. The latter approximate capacity.

With the several major musicals rather indefinite as to starting time, there's nothing rose-colored in sight the coming summer. The list is down to six musicals, led by "The Wonder Bar," which continues to lead all, getting $29,500 last week. The others appear to be nearing their end and are not clear summer possibilities.

"Grand Hotel," the dramatic leader, has been averaging $28,000, topping all the other musicals. "Barretts of Wimpole Street" is three months old and the demand leader in the agencies. "Private Lives" is the final dramatic heavyweight.

Old and New

Considered arriving in a good spot is "The Crazy Quilt," due next week at the 46th Street. It's the spring edition of "Sweet and Low." Next week are "Old Man Murphy," Royale; Little Theatre Tournament at Craig; recast "Private Lives," and "Perfectly Scandalous," house indefinite.

"Getting Married" ends at the Guild this week; 'Wiser They Are" closes at the Plymouth; "The Bellamy Trial" due off at the 48th Street; "Give Me Yesterday" withdrew from the Booth Saturday, at which time the stock revival try of "Young Sinners" stopped at the New Yorker.

"Devil in the Mind" was last week's solo premiere. The heavy Russian drama arrived late in the week at the Fulton, with indications unfavorable.

Estimates for Last Week

(Symbols: R—revue; M—musical comedy; D—drama; C—comedy; F—farce; O—operetta. Capacities and top prices also indicated.)

"America's Sweetheart," Broadhurst (13th week) (M-1,118-$5.50). Agency deal will carry engagement through month and maybe into June; with cut rating, bettered $19,000 last week.

"As Husbands Go," Golden (10th week) (C-900-$3.85). Strong matinee show and on nine performances around $15,000 weekly; should go into summer.

"As You Desire Me," Maxine Elliot (15th week) (D-924-$3.85). Hooked up on new cut rate deal; little chance after this month; $7,000 estimated.

"Barretts of Wimpole Street," Empire (13th week) (CD-1,099-$3.85). As big as ever with gross over $21,000; capacity all performances.

"Betty Be Careful," Liberty (1st week) (F-1,202-$3). Postponed from last week; opened Monday.

"Brass Ankle," Masque (3d week) (D-700-$3). Should make fair showing to moderate money; first full week estimated around $7,500 for strong drama.

"Devil in the Mind," Fulton (2d week) (C-918-$3). Opened late last week; Russian tragedy not likely to create popular appeal.

"Five Star Final," Cort (19th week) (CD-1,043-$3.85). Break may carry newspaper meller into summer; around $9,000 recently.

"Girl Crazy," Alvin (30th week) (M-1,387-$5.50). Parties handy last week with claimed gross over $23,000.

"Give Me Yesterday," Booth. Closed Saturday; nine weeks; could have played out season at little Hopkins where first spotted.

"Grand Hotel," National (27th week) (CD-1,164-$4.40). Not as hot an agency ticket as before but gross tops everything including all but one musical; about $28,000.

"Green Pastures," Mansfield (63d week) (CD-1,050-$3.85). Run leader dipped around $13,000 last week; lowest in some time; may do comeback and stick into summer.

"Her Supporting Cast," Biltmore (1st week) (C-1,000-$3). Presented independently (Philip Gerton); written by Harold Sherman; opened Monday; good reports from tryout points.

"House Beautiful," Apollo (9th week) (D-1,168-$3). Couple of parties last week and takings went up again; quoted well over $11,000.

"In the Best of Families," Forrest (14th week) (C-1,015-$3). Never pretended to be important; cooperative and making some money; last week nearly $6,000.

"Meet My Sister," Imperial (19th week) (M-1,446-$3). Will go through this month but summer stay unlikely; paced at nearly $10,000; apparently some profit.

"Melo," Barrymore (4th week) (D-1,090-$3). Probably only show improved last week against slumping trend; estimated around $16,000; especially strong downstairs.

"Once in Lifetime," Music Box (33d week) (D-1,015-$3). Good Saturday despite dreary weather made up for slump earlier in week; again $13,000.

"Private Lives," Times Square (13th week) (C-1,057-$3.85). Only three shows at capacity; this one, "Barretts of Wimpole Street" and "Grand Hotel"; nearly $25,000; Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence out after this week.

"Rhapsody in Black," Harris (1st week) (R-1,060-$3). Lew Leslie colored show. Opened Monday.

"The Bellamy Trial," 48th St. (3d week) (D-969-$3). Final week; first full week under $3,000; liable to stop after tonight's performance.

"The Rap," Avon (5th week) (D-830-$3). With low cost hook-up can go along to modest profit at from $3,000 to $4,000 weekly.

"The Silent Witness," Morosco (7th week) (D-893-$3). Agency buy protects lower floor with balcony partially cut-rated; estimated at $10,000.

"The Vinegar Tree," Playhouse (25th week) (C-969-$3.85). Completes half year's stay next week with good chance for summer stay; about $11,000.

"The Wiser They Are," Plymouth (5th week) (C-1,042-$3.85). Final week; figured having fairly good chance, but slipped after first week to $7,000 and then cut rates.

"The Wonder Bar," Bayes (8th week) (M-860-$6.60). Matinees not big but nights standing up to excellent trade with gross quoted over $29,000.

"Three's a Crowd," Selwyn (30th week) (R-1,067-$5.50). Unless picking up run will soon end; last week slipped to about $18,000; low mark.

"Tomorrow and Tomorrow," Miller's (17th week) (D-946-$3.85). Back to eight performances; party or two helped gross approximate $13,000; doubtful for summer.

"Tonight or Never," Belasco (25th week) (CD-1,000-$3.85). Holds up surprisingly and last week over $17,000 quoted.

"You Said It," Chanin's 46th St. (16th week) (M-1,413-$4.40). Few of surviving musicals getting real money; this one moderately successful from start; about $20,000 last week.

Other Attractions

"Mikado," Erlanger's; revival; switched in from Newark Monday; two weeks.

"An American Tragedy," Waldorf; revival; cut rates.

"Getting Married," Guild; revival, final (6th) week.

"Mrs. Moonlight," Little; making run of it.

"Peter Ibbetson," Shubert; revival.

"Precedent," Provincetown.

"Young Sinners," New Yorker; revival; closed Saturday.

'ON THE SPOT' FLOPPO IN PTSBGH AT $7,500

Pittsburgh, May 5.

"On the Spot" took a nosedive at the Alvin last week to wind up the legit season here. Meller did less than $7,500, pretty disappointing at $2.50 top.

At the Pitt the Sharp stock had a fine week with "Strange Interlude," claiming around $6,000, including two mats, getting under way at 11 a. m.

FUTURE PLAYS

"Prisoner's Bell," by Jerome Dreyfuss, has been taken by Ray-Miner.

Now first for Ray-Minor production is "Blessed Event." It is due to start June 1. Due on Broadway in October.

"Old Man Murphy" original title of the new Pat Kearney play goes back in the place of "The Patch" for play's New York showing. Produced by Robert Newman and booked into the Royale for May 11. Arthur Sinclair and Marie O'Neill remain leads.

"Reunion in Vienna," comedy by Robert E. Sherwood, will star Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne next season, Theatre Guild producing. Guild also has the "Mourning Becomes Elektra," trilogy by Eugene O'Neil.

"What the Well-Dressed Man Will Wear," by Hugh McCraig, taken by George H. Brennan.

Hickey Retiring

Portland, Me., May 5.

Albert Hickey ends a 24-year stage career with closing of Jefferson stock. He will become civil engineer with the local branch of Johns-Manville Co.

Hickey has played with road and stock companies from coast to coast.

STOCK'S $3,500 NSG

Minneapolis' Reaction to Guest Star Policy Blamed on Poor Play

Minneapolis, May 5.

With Edith Taliaferro as guest star, the Bainbridge Players (stock) at the Shubert in "The Dishonored Lady" got under $3,500 at $1.25 top. Low gross blamed on poor play. Miss Taliaferro closes her two weeks' stay in "Peg o' My Heart" next Saturday.

New York Theatre Guild's "Elizabeth the Queen," with Alfrend Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, current at the Lyceum. "Three Little Girls" comes to Metropolitan next week.

STANDOUT TRIO IN L. A. LEGIT LINEUP

Los Angeles, May 5.

Although a decline in attendance was felt last week, legit business locally is still above average. "Street Scene" at $12,500 and "Elizabeth the Queen" to $10,000 at the Mayan and Belasco, respectively, are more than content.

Mrs. Leslie Carter in "Shanghai Gesture" at the Hollywood Music Box is still the burg's surprise, with all the local producers who passed it up burning plenty. Second week at the 900-seater got $9,300, close to capacity.

"Apron Strings" at the Majestic stayed in the cellar with a $4,000 take. About nut money, with the stars and producers (Kolb and Dill) deciding to call it quits Saturday night.

At the El Capitan "Whispering Friends" did well at $5,800, several hundred over last week's take.

"Ten Nights in a Barroom," starring William Desmond and supposedly backed by the W. C. T. U., started at the Orange Grove on Monday and got $2,000 on the week. Cast waived a bond.

Estimates for Last Week

"Whispering Friends," El Capitan (3d week) C-1,371; $1.50). The Bessie Love-Tom Moore combination getting returns from the picture fans. Two theatre parties kept the take up to $5,800.

"Elizabeth the Queen," Belasco (4th week) (D-1,103; $2.50). Pauline Frederick's personal following gave up $10,000 to see her last week. One more than 'Frisco.

"Street Scene," Mayan (4th week). Built up $1,000 over last week to $12,500 on the "Last Two Weeks" billing.

"Apron Strings," Majestic (C-1,050; $1.50). Folded to $4,000 Saturday; total loss.

Shanghai Gesture," Music Box (2d week) (D-965; $2). Plenty of profit at $9,300 with a short-money cast.

"Ten Nights in a Barroom," Orange Grove (1st week) (D-750; $1). Just about got by at $2,000; ready to fold anytime.

"SISTERS" ARBITRATION

Actors' Claims Allowed—Bannister Claims Shuberts Responsible

Difficulties involving Shuberts, Albert Bannister and the cast of "Stepping Sister," produced by Bannister, were settled Monday (4) by arbiters' decision in favor of the actors. By the award, some of the troupe are to be paid salaries and gown rental costs by "Sisters" producer.

Trouble arose when the show closed after a short try in Boston. In a Shubert house, the latter had given Equity a letter of guarantee, with maximum liability stated. After the folding, salaries and rentals figured to a higher amount, and claims were entered for the balance.

Bannister claimed the Shuberts were responsible for the full amount.

Louisville Stock

Louisville, May 5.

W. H. Wright, who had a stock company here before, has leased Mary Anderson on a percentage for stock, opening with "Apron Strings" yesterday (4).

75c top. Special arrangements have been made with stagehands and musicians' union.

Betty Hanna and Lance Davis are leads. Alexis B. Luce, Bertha Creighton and Duane Thompson are in the troupe.

John McKee directing. D. C. Ashton, formerly of Parucchi Players, has been made theatre manager.

Elmer Redell is one of the backers.

Not a Musical in Chicago

Guild's "Lilacs" $13,400—7 Dramas with 4 Two-for-Ones—"On the Spot" Trimmed

Chicago, May 5.

"On the Spot" opened at the Grand Sunday with the new mayor on hand to make sure all references to Chicago in the lines and scenery had been eliminated. Publicity given the gag should help. Other week's entry was "The Greeks Had a Word For It" at Harris.

Withdrawal of "Three Little Girls" for Milwaukee, left the burg without anything resembling a musical. Seven dramatic shows on view, four with two-for-oners.

Top disappointment of the week was the Guild's "Green Grow the Lilacs." Following the smash, "Elizabeth the Queen," the cowboy fable was but fair at $13,400.

"Oh, Promise Me," booking has been switched, for May 10, from the Selwyn to the Apollo. Concurrent entries for that date are Joe Cook in "Fine and Dandy," Erlanger, and "Blossom Time," Great Northern.

Estimates for Last Week

"Apron Strings," Playhouse (3rd week) (CD-603; $3). Town taking to this one warmly. Shot up grand to around $7,000. Cheap hookup should give all concerned a neat profit. Heavy drive for party trade doing the trick.

"Green Grow the Lilacs," Illinois (1st week) (D-1,319; $3). Cowboy folk play fell down gross contrasts with previous Guild smash that ran to $19,000 capacity. "Lilacs" $13,400.

"On the Spot," Grand (opened Sunday) (D-1,365; $3). Script revised to conform with Mayor Cermak's edict. Also eliminated backdrop representing two of the Michigan Boule skyscrapers.

"Petticoat Influence," Harris (5th final week) (C-1,984; $3). Lifted itself up to around $12,500 on the blow-out week. Company folds. Helen Hayes leaves for Hollywood. "Greeks Had a Word For It" opened Monday.

"Stepping Sisters," Cort (6th week) (C-950; $3). Move over from the Apollo didn't help this one. Cheaper hookup makes $7,500 on week satisfactory. May hold through May if figure maintained.

"That's Gratitude," Blackstone (4th week) (CD-1,219; $3). Approximated last week's $10,000. Expected to pull into June. Thomas W. Ross replacing Alan Dinehart, May 10. Latter leaving for Fox-Culver City, per picture contract.

"The First Mrs. Fraser," Selwyn (1st final week) (C-1,080; $3). Case of pitcher going to the well once to often. Return visit got very weak $6,000. House went dark Saturday, with nothing in sight.

"The Ninth Guest," Adelphi (8th week) (D-1,100; $3). Bettered itself slightly, going over $9,500.

"Three Little Girls," Great Northern (32nd final week) (O-1,315; $3.85). "Blosom Time" next Sunday (10).

FREE PASS CHISEL

Business Burean After Leventhal Over Misleading Passes for "American Tragedy"

Jules Leventhal, producer of "American Tragedy" revival at the Waldorf has been given a second warning by the Better Business Bureau regarding cut rate tickets he is distributing for the show. If Leventhal does not clearly state on the tickets by the end of this week there is a charge attached, the Bureau will take action against him. The Bureau has warned several other independent legit producers distributing similar cut rate tickets for shows.

Two weeks ago Leventhal promised to call in his "free passes" and have a line printed on them to the effect that there is a charge attached. He did this, but the Bureau is dissatisfied since the line is in very small type hidden on the back of the ticket and unlikely to be seen. On its front the ticket reads "Pass two, etc."

B. B. B. maintains that people are mislead into going to the theatre by such shoddy methods. No objection is made, according to the Bureau, to two-for-one tickets or in any other way indicating there is a charge attached.

$26,000 FOR 'CRICHTON' IS 'BROAD'S' RECORD

Philadelphia, May 5.

To nearly everybody's surprise, legit business took a big jump upward last week. Good shows and cold weather probably turned the trick.

George Tyler's revival of "Admirable Crichton," in at the Broad for a single week, broke the season's record for the house with $26,000 at $3.50 top.

Theatre Guild's "He," fifth and last subscription play of the season, got about $17,000 at the Garrick, which was okay all around, even though under last season's weekly average.

"Singing the Blues" in the second and final week at the Chestnut, $10,000 not exceptional, but claimed satisfactory for the try-out with no expensive names.

Jacob Ginsburg and Philly backers ended their season at the Lyric Saturday, after two weeks each of "Front Page" and "Oh Promise Me." Latter was pretty sad in final week.

This week's only opening is "One More Night," with Irene Bordoni, at the Forrest. Next week "The Band Wagon" comes into the Garrick. Only other show mentioned is "On the Spot," with no house reported. Unlikely to be any more shows this season.

Estimates for Last Week

"He" (Garrick, 2nd week). Theatre Guild's fifth local play healthy if not phenomenal at $17,000. "Band Wagon" next Tuesday.

"One More Night" (Forrest, 1st week). New Irene Bordoni show opened Monday (4). House dark last week.

"Student Prince" (Shubert, 2nd week). Operetta back for sixth time. Reported at $19,000, big at $2 top. The Broad got $26,000 and better for "The Admirable Crichton" last week, season's record. Dark first three days of this week with "He" moving down last three days so that Garrick stage can be made ready for "Band Wagon." No other booking for Broad. Chestnut has returned to pictures. "Singin' the Blues" got about $10,500 last week. Lyric dark. "Oh Promise Me" ended season of popular priced shows presnted by local group.

Actors Order Officers

The Actors Order of Friendship, oldest professional organization and its only secret order, re-elected Sam Coit as president.

Other officers are C. Jay Williams, Bernard Reinhold and Daniel E. Hanlon. Board of directors: Frank Peters, Royale Thayer, Thomas M. McGrath, George Pauncefort and Charles H. White.

Cast Changes

Fred Sweeney is in "Fine and Dandy," having taken over the role of the insurance agent, Mr. Hoover, who sprints about in his B.V.D.'s. Another cast change sent the stage manager, Larry Beck, on as the bank president.

YIDDISH STOCK EASED OUT

Couldn't Pay Rent for McKinley Theatre—Radioed for Sympathy

Eased out of the McKinley Square theatre, in the Bronx, for nonpayment of rent, Yiddish troupe broadcast its predicament over Station WBNX. For sympathy only.

Michal Michalesko and Nathan Goldberg, each formerly at the Prospect, negotiating for the McKinley Square theatre for next season, also for Yiddish shows.

Ownership of 2 Plays By Options in Dispute

Two plays have come into dispute as to ownership, one as to present rights, other on possession. "Inside Story," crook meller by Francis Verdi and George Bryant, owned on a short option by Benjamin David, is to have its rights determined by arbitration. Other play is "Captain of Kopenick," Berlin hit announced by Bela Blau and Herman Shumlin.

"Story" arbitration is to decide on a claim entered by David that he be given additional options for production. Counter claims have been made by the authors and their agents that his option expired and the show reverted to the playwrights.

Verdi, who wrote the play with Bryant, is a legit actor, once suspended by Equity on a mixup with the Theatre Guild. "Story" had been previously announced by Herman Gantvoort and Edward Blatt, each paying option money.

Shumlin's play is said to have been bought through Ullstein Press, in Germany, publishing it. Blau dealt with the Pinker agency in New York.

Chaplin Advertises Against U. A. In England Over "Lights'" Rentals

London, April 25.

Charlie Chaplin has been taking advertising space in English trade papers in direct competition to United Artists, which is handling "City Lights."

The ad says: "Notice to Exhibitors. It is expressly agreed Charles Chaplin's film 'City Lights' should be separate and apart from all other films. Will any exhibitor experiencing difficulty in booking this picture as a single unit kindly communicate directly with Charles Chaplin, stating any offer they have made for the picture, the seating capacity and locality of their cinema. Such communications will be appreciated by Charles Chaplin and will receive his immediate and personal attention."

Address given is in a West London suburb, and presumably houses an authorized agent, as the comedian himself is on the Continent at present.

Understood here the ad is due to a belief by Chaplin that U. A., when approached about "City Lights," offers to lease the film providing the exhibitors takes some of its other product.

Chaplin, as an indie producer releasing through U. A., has a clause in his contracts stipulating his pictures be handled separately, and not booked with others.

VIENNA CLAQUE CAN'T BE NOISY

Vienna, May 5.

It's against the rules to applaud too loud or at the wrong times at the Vienna State Opera House now. An offender can be handed over to the police.

Trouble started when the opera claque got on the outs with the Opera House. The hard-mitted lads claimed some of the singers hadn't come through properly, so they took it on themselves to collect. To do this they applauded at the wrong times, laughed when sopranos reached for high notes and otherwise made themselves nuisances.

Only thing the Opera House management could do was to order out all loud applause.

Claque is threatening all sorts of things, claiming it is one of Vienna's leading industries and that every citizen has a right to applause when and as loud as he pleases.

The applause makers are considering taking the matter to Parliament, and if that doesn't work, to the League of Nations.

2 Legit Lightweights

London, May 5.

"London Wall," new play by John Van Druten, opened at York's and proved uninteresting. Doesn't show any of the fine qualities of "Young Woodley." Story has to do with the tired business women.

"Bush Fire" is another domestic triangle thing, at the Fortune. Cast of three and the first work of an Australian author. Incomplete and inconsequential.

"Nina Rosa" Not Fit For West End Showing

London, May 5.

Contrary to general expectations Lee Ephraim's production of "Nina Rosa," now touring the provinces, will not be brought to the West End. Ephraim negotiated with Gillespie for West End financing but was turned down on the grounds that the show was too similar to "Rio Rita."

Musical will continue to four more provincial dates and disband.

"Turkey Time" Opening

London, May 5.

"Turkey Time," the seventh successive farce by Ben Travers, succeeds "Mary the Girl" at the Aldwych, going in on May 26. Will star Tom Wallis and Ralph Lynn.

"Speed," a new comedy, opens at the Phoenix Monday (11).

"JUAN JOSE" STOPPED BY HAVANA'S MAYOR

Havana, May 5.

Despite the Secretary of Interior had given a permit for "Juan Jose," labor propaganda play, at the Theatre Marti Payret, the mayor has banned it. Play was given a matinee performance May 1 and then withdrawn. Mayor's attitude is play might disturb the peace.

"Juan Jose" is by Joaquin Dicenta, first played 30 years ago in Madrid.

Papers here are criticizing the mayor for his action.

Americans' Original Turn Well Liked at Alhambra, London

London, May 5.

Best of the new acts at the Alhambra is Edith Lorand and a Viennese Male Orchestra of 15. With a Continental reputation and splendid musicians, they are unsuited for vaudeville.

Rabella, youthful juggler, has possibilities but appeared here underrehearsed. Clemson and Valerie, Spanish dancers, are fair.

With two Spanish dancing acts following each other and quite a number of holdovers from last week, the program is tedious and uninteresting.

Jack Hylton, back from his Continental tour, is at the Palladium, and the usual smash. New on the bill here are Billy Farrell and Dad in a dance and talk act, latter by Joe Laurie, Jr. It's the most original turn seen here for some time and splendidly received.

Ando Family, Japanese acrobats, are good openers and Reverhos Jugglers are suitable closers.

Performance last night capacity.

BETTY COMPTON MAY GO INTO A COCHRAN SHOW

London, May 5.

Betty Compton may go into a London musical. Reported here it may be a Charles Cochran production.

Miss Compton with her mother is on the water, Europe-bound. They left New York Thursday (30).

Betty Compton was reported engaged for the new George White show for Broadway. Her last stage appearance was in "Fifty Million Frenchmen."

The Comptons, daughter and mother, sailed from New York last week, with Miss Compton stating it would be a rest. She recently secured a Mexican divorce from Edward Dowling, Paramount director on Long Island.

Betty and her mother have been inseparable companions in New York. The only time of recent years the mother was away from New York, Betty married Dowling. Many believe if Mother had been home that would not have occurred.

Orchestra in Talker

The Hague, May 5.

Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, with Willem Mengleberg conducting, left for Paris this week to make its first talking film.

It's the finest orchestra in Holland.

Murder Play Convinces

London, May 5.

"Payment Deferred," at the Saint James last night (4), is a sordid but convincing adaptation from the novel. It's the story of a man who commits murder and gets away with it, while later his wife commits suicide and he is convicted of murdering her.

Excellently played and warmly received, but not the kind of drawing room play usually associated with the Saint James.

ITALIAN AGENCY BILL

May Be Shortly Introduced—Government-Controlled Agency

London, May 5.

Italian government, cognizant that imported talent is being gypped by managements in Italy who repudiate engagements and contracts, is taking steps to remedy the condition.

Bill will shortly be introduced by the Fascisti government making the agency business illegal, with booking business to be conducted by the government direct.

Means that the situation in Italy will become similar to the Parenna idea now in use in Germany.

STARS' JUNIORS IN VAUDE TURN

London, May 5.

Sons and daughters of old timers are being formed into a vaude unit, opening provincially with town dates to follow, if over.

Company consists of Marie Lloyd, Jr.; Dan Leno, Jr.; Mary Honri, daughter of Percy Honri; Nat and Joy Jackley, children of George Jackley; Maisie Weldon, daughter of Harry Weldon; Ronnie Tate, son of Harry Tate; Gordon Whelan, son of Albert Whelan, and Betty Emney, daughter of Fred Emney.

'NEW YORKERS' WANTED BY COCHRAN IN LONDON

London, May 5.

Charles Cochran has been cabling the past few days to Ray Goetz in New York in an attempt to arrange for "The New Yorkers" to appear over here.

If the deal is concluded the show will be set for a limited run with its original New York principals, or most of them.

"The New Yorkers" closed at Moss' Broadway theatre Saturday (2). Its main principals were Clayton, Jackson and Durante, who open an engagement Friday (8) for two weeks at the New York Palace (vaude).

Jimmy Durante holds a picture-making contract with Metro, calling upon him to report when requested at any time after the show's closing. Durante could secure a postponement of his film start until about Aug. 1, owing to Irving Thalberg's vacation abroad just now. Thalberg will return about July 15.

G. B. SHAW A PEST!

Thats What French Showmen Call Him—He Pounded 'Em

Paris, May 5.

George Bernard Shaw came to see Paris the other day and stopped long enough to tell Parisians what he thought of them. What he thought was plenty, but mostly wound around the fact that his "Apple Cart" spilled over at the Theatre des Arts into an egg. If the French were good showmen, G. B. S. insisted, his play couldn't have flopped.

Answer from French showmen was to call Shaw a pest who writes unintelligible things anyway.

Butt's Show at Palace

London, May 5.

Sir Alfred Butt has concluded a deal with Charles Cochran for lease of the Palace for Butt's first show on his own, "Victoria and Her Hussar." Play is an adaptation from the German.

Butt expects to bring "Victoria" into the Palace the first week of September.

Pav Back to Cochran

London, May 5.

British International's intention of taking up its option on Cochran's Pavilion until Christmas has suddenly changed. BIP is vacating the house after the run of "Dreyfus," current.

Cochran will have the Pavilion on his hands again for several months before his new revue is ready.

London Show World

London, April 24.

Surprise in film circles here is the extraordinary success scored regularly by Continental product.

Rialto, Universal's 880-seater, was in the red with a regular sequence of American talkers, mainly small ones, and jumped up steeply with "The Blue Angel" (Ufa). It has now done so well with "Sous Les Toits de Paris," rather highbrow French talker, that it is now holding the picture into the third month.

"Le Million," another French talker made by Rene Clair, opened to spectacular notices in a fortnight's run at the Phoenix. House along Oxford street is playing Continental talkers on the grind, with good results.

Noticeable audiences don't even mind not understanding much of the dialog, paying solely on unusual entertainment.

Unusual Appeal

Encouraged by the success of "Dreyfus," current at the Pavil-

(Continued on page 71)

Am. Plays in Paris?

Paris, April 24.

American plays may be produced in Paris next season by Edmond Sayag in his Ambassadeurs theatre, if Abraham Kahn's impending production there of "Countess Maritza" shows a possibility of drawing patronage to the Champs Elysees house.

Except for weekly showings of children's vaudeville, theatre has been dark since Camille Wyn's unsuccessful venture. It had been wired for pictures, but the projection equipment is being dismantled. Theatre seats 904.

ENGLISH TABOO EXHIB PASSES

London, April 25.

Partly due to the slump in film theatre receipts exhibs have been issuing passes by tying up with coupon schemes, free gift schemes, small advertisement schemes in local newspapers, and the other bait.

Flooding of paper has caused a stir among the renters. Renters Society, at its monthly meeting, carried forward a resolution deprecating the free seat practice, and stating the continuance of such schemes would be interpreted as breach of contract, with the threat, if the stunts continued, of jointly refusing to serve such exhibitors.

NEW PLAY IN CAIRO BY ENGLISH TRIED OUT

Cairo, April 18.

It is not often Egyptians have the opportunity of seeing a play prior to London or New York, but "The Vulture," a 3-act play by John Pollock, correspondent in Paris for the Morning Post, which was given by the English Players here, is an exception.

The piece deals with Fleet Street matters in 1945. Lord Haxard, who began life in very poor circumstances but has now become rich through the influence he wields in his newspaper The Daily Wireless, has a capital of $65,000,000 behind him. He is not satisfied. When a society beauty, the wife of a Viscount, repels his amorous advances, his vanity receives a rude shock. In revenge he threatens to expose a scandal between the Viscountess and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The incriminating love letters however are stolen from his safe. This discovery sends him into a frightful rags during which he has a stroke of apoplexy.

That ends his campaign of revenge and things are to go on as usual, but Lord Haxard is a useless invalid for life.

One-Cabin Class

London, May 5.

Gilbert Miller denies the "Strange Interlude's" American cast playing here was returned to New York third class. They sailed, he says, on a one-cabin American boat.

Some of the cast, he goes on to say, preferred to remain here for visit on the continent. They were given the fare back to do with as they pleased.

Gaby Morlay Switches

Paris, April 26.

Bernstein is losing his femme star, Gaby Morlay, when her contract expires at the end of the season.

She is going over to the Michodiere in a play by Bourdet.

FRANCE BARS BELGIAN ACTOR

Brussels, April 24.

Ritchie, leading comedian, accepted a date for Vichy. French authorities vetoed it. Too many French artists are out of work and must be protected against foreign competition, they said.

Belgian theatre men urge the Belgian government to take similar measures against French artists wishing to appear here. The protest is, however, hypocritical, for were French actors barred, 75% of Belgian theatres would be forced to close.

German Jazz Leader Is Charged with Murder Of Young Sweetheart

Saarbruecken, April 23.

Conductor of the well known Berlin jazz orchestra, at the Cafe Kiefer, was Erik Borchardt, who has been arrested on suspicion of having killed his sweetheart, Margot Candelier.

He made the acquaintance of this young and extraordinarily pretty girl at the cafe. A few days ago Borchardt informed the girl that when he left Saarbruecken at the end of this month, their liaison would have to come to an end.

Driven to despair the young girl took an overdose of veronal. Borchardt found the unconscious girl in her room and in his first fright tried to force a rubber tube down her throat into the stomach. Accidentally it went into her air pipe, suffocating the unfortunate woman.

Borchardt was the first one to play jazz in Germany. This made him very popular. For many years he has been a drug addict and his affairs slowly went from bad to worse. It is probable that he gave his sweetheart an overdose of morphium and then tried to save her by pumping her stomach.

In her stomach a piece of rubber tubing was found. Doctors are of the opinion that this could have caused, perhaps, her death.

Borchardt tried to commit suicide in his cell by opening the arteries.

The German public is especially outraged, because Borchardt left the unconscious girl to recover by herself while he had dinner, and then upon his return tried to insert the rubber tube.

Once before Borchardt was in publicity in an aggravating matter. In Vienna he ran down a woman and child with his automobile. When the woman died as a result of the accident, he fled from Vienna to Budapest.

SIMPLIFIED VISA FORM GRANTED IN ENGLAND

London, April 25.

Another passport reform, affecting Americans visiting England, has been brought about by the Travel Association of Great Britain.

The association maintained the form of application for a visa which Americans had to fill up in order to visit England was long and complicated, some of the questions were irrelevant, and some, in the opinion of visitors, offensive.

Additional annoyance was caused as the application forms had to be filled up in duplicate.

As a result the authorities have now prepared a simplified application form for temporary visitors, omitting the questions objected to, and in future only one form to be filled in.

Plays on Broadway

Her $upporting Cast

Farce comedy in three acts by Harold Sherman, who also staged. Presented by Philip Gerton. Setting by Yellenti. At the Biltmore, New York, starting May 4. Top, $3.85.

Eleanor Curtis.....Mildred McCoy
Gregory Lloyd.....Otto Hulett
Henry Duncan.....Dodson L. Mitchell
Jeff Reekie.....Jack Hartley

Farce with enough laughs and a sufficiently low nut to insure possibilities for a moderate run. May be necessary to slide into cut rates, but is the type of piece that could probably hold for a while with that prop.

"Her $upporting Cast," with no mistake about that dollar sign, palpably intended as a title lure, has only four people in the company. With reservation, that cast, however, is a capable one. It's a matter of types with Otto Hulett, as a painter; Dodson L. Mitchell, as an elderly stock broker, and Jack Hartley as a crudely amusing pug.

The three men play papa to the girl, each accepting that one about "the aunt from Boston" as an alibi when a date with one of the others interferes. Deftly maneuvering to take lucre from all, but trying to help in the end when help seems needed, she allows the jig to be up in a grand sort of flourish. Had the girl walked out after investing the $8,000 she won in a crap game from the fighter against his own dough, plus money from the others, all on the stock market, the only false note in the piece would have been absent.

But this was a different type of gold-digger, who after handing out for the finish, takes the air with plenty as her bit. Or at least that's the supposition, and it may have been tough for that third act to wind up without the girl putting in an appearance after making dates with all three to meet her in the apartment for a trip abroad. The trio in themselves provided fast entertainment woven around an unusual situation.

Mildred McCoy is coy, wistful, coarse and shrewd in turns as demanded by the script, but her performance is spotty. Now and then she obviously forces to fit the mood.

As the blustering fighter, Jack Hartley stands out. The other two are more impressive as types than through the manner in which they sell parts, but oke just the same.

This is the maiden effort of both Philip Gerton, as producer, and Harold Sherman as playwright. In the writing the play is far from brilliant, situations and acting setup mainly selling. On laughs, however, fair.

Russell Medcraft's staging average. *Char.*

BETTY BE CAREFUL

Farce comedy in three acts presented at the Liberty May 4 by Gerald Bacon; written by Willis Maxwell Goodhue; staged by Earle Boothe.

Adeline West.....Carolyne McLean
T. Cheever West.....Edmund Elton
Elizabeth West.....Margaret Mullen
Judy West.....Mary Murray
Rollin North.....Alan Goode
Benito Calles.....Frederic Tozere
Bernie O'Kelley.....Edgar Nelson
Pearl Meacham.....Helene Dumas

Only adds to the spring's list of shows that have been feeding the flop crop. Its excuse may be that of other farces before they are produced—read well in script.

Gerald Bacon as presenter and Earle Boothe as director sounds like a fair combination but the latter did not provide the pace that might have helped "Betty Be Careful." Perhaps one of those affairs that a stager could not do much with.

First act entirely preparatory. Second act roused some giggles from the more susceptible first nighters. Third act tried to make up the missing speed but it was too late. Scenes are a New York apartment in the Village.

The West household consists of a fussy father and mother and two daughters, Elizabeth and Judy. First named believes herself devoid of romance. Her impulses are biological and there are some complexes. She claims she is 98% perfect woman and following the order of the board of directors of the firm she works for, intends marrying to bear children. Elizabeth selects Rollin North because his Y. M. C. A. examination showed him to be 95% perfect. That Rolland loves sister Judy appears no deterrent, for Elizabeth strives for the good of unborn humanity.

Into the picture is placed Benito Calles of the Argentine. A likely chap but one who though 29 has never held a woman in his arms. He is waiting for some girl from around the corner and therefore does not fall for Pearl, a gold digger who moved into the flat next door.

Through some frame, Elizabeth comes to the Calles apartment seek-

(Continued on page 68)

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ACCIDENTS!
ACCIDENTS!

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PERCENTAGE PARTNERS

Equity Decides on Peters-Davis and "Two's Company"

Equity made clear its position in regards the complaint against Anne Davis, in a letter to Joseph P. Bickerton, Jr., who was interested in "Two's Company" with Howard Schnebbe. The two-person play failed to open at the Hudson, after a bad dress rehearsal for which the management blamed Miss Davis.

Equity stated that as Miss Davis and Rollo Peters were in fact partners in the show, since they were to have each received 10% of the gross, any differences must be settled between them and the producers.

Saving "The Blues"

"Singing the Blues," colored show tried out by Aarons and Freedley was brought in from Philadelphia Saturday.

"Blues" will be saved for Broadway until the new season.

Bel-Geddes Play

Norman Bel-Geddes, stage designer, has a play by Maurine Watkins, entitled "Mardigras."

He is looking for a cast.

"Anaconda" Deferred

"Anaconda," by William R. Leigh, which Joseph Totten started casting for immediate production, is off until July.

Tentative cast had included J. M. Holmes, Alan Bunce and Susan Freeman.

CHINESE GIRL WEST

Chicago, May 5.

Anna May Wong is supposed to leave the cast of Shuberts' "On the Spot" here next Monday (11). She goes west on a one-picture contract for Paramount.

Irene Homer is slated to replace.

Jed Harris Returning

Jed Harris, in Europe for three weeks, visiting Paris, London and Berlin, sails for New York on May 6 on the Ile de France.

Immediately on arrival in New York he will start work on "Twentieth Century," a new play by Charles MacArthur and Ben Hecht.

"Lifetime's" Moving Day

"Once in a Lifetime" is set to move from the Music Box to the Plymouth, New York, which will be vacated by "The Wiser They Are" this week.

"Third Little Show" is slated for the Music Box week of May 25, the switch of "Lifetime" occurring at that time.

Chorus Equity Meeting

Annual meeting of the Chorus Equity will be held May 29 in New York.

Portland Stock Ending

Portland, Ore., May 5

Dufwin is due to close about June 1 after a short successful stock season.

BRANDTS LOST $12,000

All Red on List of Musical Revivals On Suburban Circuit

Broadway musicals, produced as revivals by Brandt Bros. to keep their subway legit theatres open, have failed. The brothers' total loss is around $12,000.

Brandts intend to close the Flatbush, Brooklyn, and Boulevard, Jackson Heights, after the revivals finish their runs. Only outside bookings will reopen them.

An indie sex picture starts May 11 week at the Carlton, Jamaica, and Windsor, Bronx.

As revived by Brandts, the musicals played to between $6,000 and $8,000 weekly, meaning red. Combined house and show overheads went around $9,000 weekly. Four shows were taken from the storehouse, "Good News," "Hold Everything," "Wildflower," and "Desert Song."

Robert Milton's Three Plays by Film Writers

Hollywood, May 5.

Robert Milton is scheduled to produce two more plays on Broadway during the coming season by film writers. Has "See Saw,' by Richard Sharpe (Metro) and "Volcano," by Alan Rinehart (Paramount).

Previously announced "John "Oliver," by Horace Jackson (RKO-Pathe).

Coolness Stock Savior

Cool weather in the east kept a number of stocks from closing last week.

Stocks then numbered 59. No summer stock included.

Legits at Fay's, Prov.

Providence, May 5.

Legits will appear in Fay's Carlton hereafter. The old Providence opera house is out of commission to make way for a business block

The Banky-Larocque show, "Cherries Are Ripe," was in the Carlton for four performances last week, to reported $5,860.

Erlanger's will book.

Passion Players' Debts

Quincy, May 5.

Alfred E. Wolf of Fairfield, Ia., former manager o' the Freiburg Passion Players, has brought suit for $5,700. He claims this amount is due him in salary and booking commissions.

Troupe played all over the Quincy area to packed houses.

Stanley Sharpe's Drama

Stanley Sharpe has the stage rights to a dramatic "Clara Deane," by Max Arthur.

Reherasals start in August.

Plays Out of Town

COWL CANCELS

Defers Western Road Tour Until Mid-Summer

Los Angeles, May 15.

Jane Cowl, scheduled here for two weeks at Erlanger's Biltmore, canceled everything west of Kansas City.

Starts back to Boston May 9 from K. C.

Rent Lower, But Morals Still High—Majestic, Chi

Chicago, May 5.

Lehmann estate has slashed its rental demands for the Majestic, now offering the spot for $1,500 weekly. This as compared to the 125,000 yearly rental demanded some weeks ago.

Estate still censoring possible owners, snubbing sex shows, burlesque and other entertainments which can't pass all purity codes.

Salary Bonds Up

"Ebb Tide," "Honor Code" and "Oh Promise Me," latter for Chicago, have had cast bonds posted at Equity. Saul Martell, Jack Linder and Gregory Ratoff are producing, respectively.

Amounts, for "Tide" $485. "Code" $2,500 and "Promise" $3,000.

Mary Howard in Lead

Mary Howard will have the lead role in "Unexpected Husband," by Barry Conners. Richard Herndon is producing. He first had Peggy O'Neil in mind for the part. Play will open in Atlantic City May 18.

In the cast will be Josephine Hull, Hugh Cameron, Arnelius Vesin and Robert Guion. Milton Stiefel is directing.

"Crazy Quilt" Now

Billy Rose changed "Sweet and Low" to "Sweeter and Lower," and new he says "Crazy Quilt."

Phil Baker, Ted Healy and Fannie Brice remain as co-stars. Sammy Lee is staging the numbers and Herman Timberg writing the sketches.

New edition opens at the 44th Street, New York, May 11.

"Murphy" in Wilmington

Wilmington, Del., May 5.

Arthur Sinclair and Marie O'Neill open here Thursday in a new comedy "Old Man Murphy" by Patrick Kearney and Harry Wagstaff Gribble. Play is produced by Robert V. Newman and staged by Mr. Gribble. Scheduled for the Royale theatre, New York, after trial run of three days here.

HE

Philadelphia, May 5.

Alfred Savoir's "He," the last Theatre Guild production of the season, is a play that is quite likely to win considerable critical favor. The subscription groups may go for its artistic angles, but it is extremely improbable that it will find many admirers in the rank and file of the theatre-going public.

Savoir has unexpectedly turned his hand in this case to an allegorical subject and a rather daring one at that. The natural thing is to compare it to "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" and "The Servant in the House," but where, as they were written with sober, heavy and often preachy earnestness, "He" is fundamentally Gallic and sophisticated.

It's in a Swiss alpine resort in the shadow of the Jungfrau during the meeting of a group of radical free-thinkers who aim to pass a resolution which, in effect, "abolishes God." The quietest and most unobtrusive of the delegates is the one dissenting voice and the reason is seen when he calmly announces that he himself is the Deity.

The free-thinkers refuse, at first, to accept him, but circumstances develop which force them to do so. One is an avalanche which threatens to destroy the hotel; the other is a revolt of the servants who, becoming suddenly revolutionists, band together to overthrow their masters. "He" becomes a modern miracle man, but, at the end, the head of an asylum comes to get him. The author does not say, however, that he is a madman. In fact, the last scene of the play reveals further divine powers of the man and in the end he exits, not off-stage but down through the audience as proof that no man-made walls or man-made wills can hold him.

There are several occasions when it appears that irreverent and sensational developments are just around the corner. One always feels the author is on the brim of a volcano, but the developments never arrive and the volcano never engulfs him. This can be seen from the fact that in Philadelphia, where censorship is rife and the church element strong, not a single exception has been taken to the Savoir play.

What does happen is that the author, who apparently started out in a vein of definite satire becomes so engrossed in his leading character that "He" becomes a character study rather than a drama. Splendid dialog and the presentation of one man's forceful and dominant personality get the call over dramatic conflict and theatrical twists.

Another reason for the failure of "He" to create any offense or shock lies in the performance of Tom Powers in the title role. Powers' kindly, restrained and real spiritual interpretation of this self-proclaimed Deity is reverent in the extreme, as well as forceful.

Claude Rains, as the elevator man who, given the backing of supernatural aid, demonstrates his complex of Napoleonic greatness, gives another corking performance, matching Powers' throughout. Others in the cast who are excellent are Edward Rigby, Violet Kemble Cooper and Cecil Yapp, with

(Continued on page 70)

IRWIN WITH GRADY

Non-Permit Agent Goes Into Agency —Coast Representation

Bill Grady is expanding his casting agency, increasing the staff and establishing a Coast contact. Lou Irwin is now Grady's chief aide, with Henry Dagnat also added. Although rather well established in legit offices, Irwin did not secure an individual Equity permit.

The Coast agency end is Walter Herzbrun, former company manager and Broadway ticket treasurer. Charles Harris, former manager of the Longacre and latterly on the Radio Picture lot, is with Herzbrun on the Coast.

GOODMAN WASHED UP

Art Institute Withdraws Subsidy For Drama

Chicago, May 5.

Repertory company of the Goodman theatre has been put into permanent discard. Trustees of the Art Institute, underwriters of the semi-professional project for five years, decided the company's maintenance took too big a chunk.

Drama School connected with the theatre will continue to be supported.

Concerts

By Sallie

Frederick Bristol's recital in Steinway Hall of modern music for the piano was one of the best of the season. His program included five items by Turina's and Debussy's Fantastic Dance.

As a first performance the program announced the same composer's suite Voyage Maritime, Rachmaninoff's Prelude, Opus 32 No. 10, and Prokokieff's march from "The Love of the Three Oranges," made a hit as Russian music usually does. His last group was devoted to American composers, Charles Tomlinson Griffis' "The White Peacock," Elliot Griffis' "Summer" and the first hearing of Henry Cowell's "The Voice of Lir."

A full house and much applause.

English Mezzo

An English mezzo-contralto, Alexandria Cary, made her professional New York debut at Steinway Hall. Miss Cary is of quite some individual taste and musicianship. Her songs scored and brought out splendid diction.

A large and friendly audience manifested interest in the singer.

A Musical Contest

Graphic Musical Contest held at Madison Square Garden Saturday for unemployed musicians fell far short of capacity.

Mme. Germaine Schnitzer, in a lame silver evening gown, played with Goldman's Symphony Orchestra a stirring concert of Bach's. Beatrice Belkin, mezzo soprano, sang several songs, looking very pretty in a bodice of green spangles with a full skirt of same color net. Received much applause. Frankie Goldman conducted his band and received a gold medal for the work he has accomplished in getting the event together. The Hebrew Orphanage Band of the younger sets won a prize, but the first prize went to the Aviation Band of Brooklyn.

Rudy Vallee's appearance was nothing short of a storm of applause. His popularity is tremendous with the young people. He conducted one of the orchestras in good style and had to repeat his songs.

Evening of Dance

Louise Revere Morris in her own dance compositions at the Booth Sunday, with Charles Haubiel at the piano.

Miss Morris' entire evening was devoted to dances of soft movement. She appears to use too much restraint. In the Mazurka number force and expression could have been employed beautifully. Her body control is good. Program included dances to music by Greig, Forrester, etc.

Good audience.

Dailies Starring Columnists

With the circulation battle of years now in progress between the various New York dailies, a recapitulation of their content reveals that they are leaning more heavily than ever on writers doing the trained-seal stuff, or on daily features which are now being puffed into great prominence.

The great tendency is toward special writers who can do a column. Within the last fortnight the American, to continue the bolstering campaign it started after the passing of The World, sought Robert Benchley and Dorothy Parker, both of whom pondered for a while because the money was so heavy. What with the advertising agencies alloting the ads on a basis of circulation and even with that circulation analyzed before the ads come through, it's a case with the papers now of keeping the figures up as high as possible.

Papers that wouldn't have given a writer a by-line 10 years ago without an editorial conference lasting for hours are now tossing them out daily. Papers that hadn't heard of clumnists are now employing them, and seeking more. Where the tradition years ago was one columnist to a paper, it is now as many as they can get, in the case of the New York Mirror, three men, Winchell, Hellinger and the recently acquired Eddie Doherty writing about New York and its people. Herald-Tribune keeps two book reviewers working through the week, alternating the daily columnes of Isabel M. Patterson and Lewis Gannett. The Times is laying stress on its Leo Kiernan, sports, but the paper which has gone furthest in all the recent changes is the American, which now runs 22 daily and prominent features, either columns or stuff identified with the paper in some other way. Close behind are the Journal, World Telegram with 21, and the Mirror with 18, News with 17 and the Graphic with 16.

Here's how they stretch out:

Mirror

The Mirror's 18 columns running daily include Winchell, Hellinger, the newly acquired Eddie Doherty, Nick Kenny (radio), Gladys Glad (beauty), Emile Gauvreau, the managing editor, who tries to do a Brisbane on the day's events, Edward Orleans, editorial writer of signed stuff, Dr. Shirley Wynne (health article), Wallace Everett Brown (astrology), Francis Ditton (Fashions), Sally Martin (family troubles), Dr. Michael Schumann (child health), Bland Johaneson (films), Dr. George Cohen (dog and cat column), Market Mirror (advice on stocks and bonds), Gustav Davidson, daily compilation of interesting facts, Dan Parker, sports, and the daily fashion pattern.

News

The News not far behind with 17 daily columns, and two other features, the Inquiring Reporter and the Voice of the People letter columns which must also be rated as daily features. The trained seal contingent for the News includes Paul Gallico (sports), Fred Fletcher (fishing and hunting), Dorothea Kardel (radio), Irene Thirer (films), Florabel Muir (scorching film gossip from Coast), Dr. Evans (health hints), Antoinette Donelly (beauty hints), Sidney Skolsky (Broadway), Burns Mantle (drama), Doris Blake (family problems), Nancy Dorris (food), Gladys H. Bevans (child health), Sally Joy Brown (poor relief), Trader (stock market tips and advice), Betting Bedwell (fashions) and Wynn (astrology).

Graphic

The Graphic is up with the other tabloids in maintaining a great number of daily signed features, sixteen also being its number. Thus, Louis Sobol (Broadway and theatres), Eddie Sullivan (sports), The Night Hawk (inside crime stuff—and he's very mysterious), Peggy Joyce (advice to gals on husband-getting), Mme. Guinan (quips and funny sayings—some new), Laura Vitray (comment of the day), Bernarr Mcfadden's daily editorial, G. LeRoy Dale (Diet and Health), Patricia Lee (Love and so forth), Benne Hall (fashions), Ruth Corby (beauty), Mrs. J. S. Gowers (motherhood, etc.), Stella (astrology), Jerry Wald (radio), Julia Shawell (films) and Robert Grannis (theatre notes).

Journal

Among the standard sized papers, the same tendency for a heavy mass of feature writers is noted. The American and Journal (Hearst), have recently been blowing up this end of the publication. The Journal has gone in heavily for individual features and recently began giving its stars to double-column space and a greater display than they had had in the past. The paper runs to 21 stars, one or two of them syndicate bought but counted here because the Journal is their main paper. Claude G. Bowers, former editor of the Evening World now writing daily column on political events, Elsie Robinson (Listen, World!), Helen Rowland (Love), Edgar Guest (Mr. Guest is a Detroit poet), T. E. Powers (cartoon), Marguerite Mooers Marshall (Women's interests), Dr. L. E. Bisch (medical advice), Beatrice Fairfax (Advice to the Lovelorn), Lewis Haney (financial), Leslie Gould (financial), Tad's cartoon, Hype Igoe (sports), Bill Corum (sports), Pare Lorentz (films), Rose Pelswick (films), John Anderson (stage), Gilbert Seldes (a recent acquisition and doing a general column), Maurice Roesk (politics), Mary Christie (society) and Nelson Harding (daily cartoon and comment).

American

In developing its feature list recently The American made, for a Hearst paper, a radical departure and put in a page modelled after that which ran opposite The World's editorial sheet. But the American's list of features begins with Arthur Brisbane, daily on the front page, and O. O. McIntyre, daily on the first page of the second section. Then there is Bugs Baer, Damon Runyon, Cholly Knickerbocker, Louella Parsons, Merryl S. Rukeyser (financial), Harry Acton (ship news) and George E. Phair of spotrts, whose stuff has appeared regularly in the American. Lately plugged at their trained sealing have been Gilbert Gabriel (dramatic and thrice-weekly column on page opposite editorial), Deems Taylor (music and thrice-weekly column), Malcolm Vaughn (art), Gobind Behari Lal (Science), Charles Hanson Towne (causeries), Louis Reid (radio), Leo Marsh (theatres), Winifred Black (human interest), Bainbridge Colby, former Secretary of State of the United States (political comment), Ted Cook (nut column), Robert E. Ripley (Believe It or Not), Jack Bramley (fishing and hunting) and Regina Crews (films). This gives The American 22 of the daily features.

World Telegram

The Scripps-Howard World Telgram is also long on the individual stuff. Although M. E. Tracy's stuff, which used to dominate the editorial page, isn't appearing there now, every other section of the paper has its I writer. First in the Scripps lineup is Heywood Broun with his It Seems to Me column. Then Alice Hughes (merchandise), Jack Foster (radio), Helen Worden (society), George Abell (Washington society), Gretta Palmer (woman's stuff), J. Otis Swift (Mr. Swift deals in the weather and the glories of nature), Enright's daily cartoon, Wortman's daily cartoon of Manhattan types on page opposite editorial, Harry Hansen with his The First Reader carried over from The World, Elsie McCormick, ditto, David Dietz (science), Mrs. Walter Ferguson (women's angle), Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes (liberal viewpoint on world affairs), Robert Garland (drama and movies), William Boehnel (films), Bide Dudley (drama), William Myers (hotels), Joe Williams (sports), Daniel (sports), Russ Murphy and Ray Senusky with a How It Began series, modeled after the Ripley Believe It or Not. The World Telegram also retains what was a prominent feature of the World, the page opposite editorial.

The Sun

The Sun goes in less strongly for name features, though the several it has are well advertised continually and well played in the paper. They include H. I. Phillips (columnist), W. J. Henderson (music critic), Karl K. Kitchen (anecdotal column), Ward Morehouse (theatrical and travel), Richard Lockridge (drama critic), John S. Cohen, Jr (film critic), and Eileen Creelman (film news). Robert H. Davis runs a thrice-weekly column and Laurence Stallings was recently hired as book reviewer. Joe Villa is featured sports man.

The Times

The Times goes in for but one trained-seal feature in its week-day edition, that being the Will Rogers daily telegram, but on Sunday it features certain writers regularly—Brooks Atkinson in drama, Olin films, S. J. Woolf with interviews in the magazine section, the Marcus carttons and drawings, etc. Quite Downes on music, Mordaunt Hall in different is the Times' chief opposition, the Herald-Tribune. On that paper Calvin Coolidge is head columnist, Cal's stuff appearing on page one daily and always placed in the top center spot. Inside daily many "names" are plugged. Percy Hammond on drama, Lawrence Gilman on music, Richard Watts, Jr., on pictures, Thornton Burgess (bed-time stories), F. P. A's (Conning Tower column), the book review columns of Lewis Gannett and Isabel Patterson, the sports columns of W. O. McGeehan (who seems to write on whatever subject pleases him), Donald Stillman, Harry Cross and others. James J. Montague's poetry is on the editorial page daily and in the Sunday edition Lucius Beebe, Stanley Walker (city editor, incidentally), and Beverly Smith are regularly represented on the page opposite editorial. Ding's cartoons are also a highly prized H-Trib feature, while the two magazine sections of the Sunday paper. Books edited by Irita Van Doren and the H-Trib Magazine, edited by Mrs. William Brown Meloney, are filled with the name stuff from here and abroad.

Evening Post

The Evening Post follows something of the same policy which marks the Tribune in respect to these features. Louis Sherwin does a daily Roving Reporter column; Russel Crouse a column; William Lyon Phelps a Saturday column; Dorothy Dix, Dr. Logan Clendening (health); Dr. Joseph Jastrow (mental hygiene); Karen Hollis (food); Ruth Stuyvesant (fashions); Marion Clyde McCarroll (chatter and gossip); Angelo Patri (child training); Frederick F. Schrader (articles on solitaire); Ruby Haskins Ellis (genealogy); Lucie Harrison (pets); Clinton W. Gilbert (Washington letter); John Mason Brown and Wilella Waldorf (drama); Oscar Thompson (music); William Goskin and Frederic W. Can De Water (books); Jack Kofoed and Westbrook Pegler (sports) and Oscar Thompson on music.

The Star System

It's the theatre system of star attractions.

It's a development of this day in journalism when many editors are trying to provide as much entertainment as news in their columns.

It's a development which followed the discovery that when a good writer is turned loose he can often attract a following. It's the same procedure that the theatre has always followed. Until recent years it was uncommon for a paper to have more than three or four writers who used the by-line. Generally it went to political writers on their dope stories, to the sports men and the critics. Now it is extending over the paper.

The Daily News has a well-developed by-line system which puts certain reporters—Martin Sommers, Norma Abrams, Jack Miley, Grace Robinson, etc.—showing up several times a week with big yarns. The Herald Tribune and the Post, among the more conservative sheets, also go in for the by-lines in addition to the heavy load of feature stuff which they carry.

It should be remembered that this compilation of the girls and boys putting on a special daily show in print is exclusive of the comic strip fellows. And it also doesn't include the hundreds of reporters about town, in sports and other work, who get periodic by-lines.

And if you didn't know it, the Times doesn't even print its editor's name on the masthead; ditto several of the others.

But the horde of columnists—they seem to be the stars.

Best Sellers

(Reprinted by the American News Co.)

Fiction

"Flamenco," by Lad, Eleanor Smith, $2.50.

"Grand Hotel," by Vicki Baum, $2.50.

"Good Earth," by Pearl S. Buck, $2.50.

"Storm Drift," by Ethel M. Dell, $2.

"Bridge of Desire," by Warwick Deeping, $2.

"Ambrose Holt and Family," by Susan Glaspell, $2.50.

Non-Fiction

"My Experiences in the World War," by General John J. Pershing, $10.

"Boners," $1.

"Fatal Interview," by Edna St. Vincent Millay, $2.

"Education of a Princess," by Grand Duchess Marie, $3.50.

"Green Hell," by Julian Duguid, $4.

"Jungle Ways," by William Seabrook, $3.50.

Hollywood's Reading

(Consensus of demand with Satyr Book Store, Esmo Warde, Pat Hunt, Hollywood Book Store, Stanley Rose.)

Fiction

"Grand Hotel," Vicky Baum.

"Impatient Virgin," D. H. Clarke.

"Men Dislike Women," Michael Arlen.

"The Glass Key," Dashiel Hammett.

"Shoe the Wild Mare," Gene Fowler.

"Gin and Bitters," anonymous.

General

"Jungle Ways," William B. Seabrook.

"Story of San Michael," Axel Munthe.

"Education of a Princess," Marie of Russia.

(Drinkwater's "Life and Adventures of Carl Laemmle" commenced selling the last few days of April and will make the list for May. Hollywood Book Store reports "Water Gypsies" its best fiction item. Stanley Rose has "Can These Things Be?" by George Seldes heading his general sellers.)

Paris Convention

First International Convention of Book Publishers since the war is to be held in Paris on June 21, with representatives from seven countries to attend.

Object is to go over every angle of the business with a view towards bettering international relations in the craft. Chief among these will be those of the author in relation to the publisher.

Translations and publications in countries other than that of the author just now haphazard, with not enough protection to author and publisher. Admitted that the author is most often on the short end and the publishers hope to remedy this to cement relations with the writers.

While Russia is not officially in on the convention, hoped also to get the Russian publishers in line. Much open pirating in Russia of American and other writings, with not a penny going to the authors. Russian publishers understood willing to assume the obligations, to make their publications official. None amongst them will take the initiative, hence the action from the outside.

Although America is the second largest producer of books, England leading, not an American on the governing board of the convention. Nevertheless, there will be full American representation.

A Razz Evening

Members of the Toledo Blade editorial department had one swell get together dinner last week with everybody on the staff taken for plenty of razzing.

Dinner opened with Ralph Phelps, chrmn., broadcasting for a scout car to clear out a bad gang at LaSalle and Koch dining room.

That started it. Before the evening was over, everybody had a good idea what a razzing meant. Bill Hall was the feature of the affair what with his awarding of "journalistic" awards.

Fred Mollenkopf, city editor, and Grove Patterson, editor, came in for their share of roasting. The hit sketch of the program was a satire on Fred Mollenkopf selling Times subscriptions to the usual office pests.

The banquet was the third annual affair for the Blade scribes. That Phelps was chairman did not let him out of the razz. He took it on the chin plenty.

In Paris

Jean Cocteau is anxious to start a literary colony near Toulon, France. Ford Madox Ford, Aldous Huxley, and Edith Wharton have already gone there.

Louise Bryant has gone to New York to sell her new book on Russia.

Arthur Train is collecting material for a new set of mystery tales of the Paris underworld.

Chatter

Albert Payson Terhune won't pose without one or more dogs. And such hounds!

Jack Devine, back home in Gloversville, and grown mellow. Doing mag articles.

Anthony Abbott has had 16 secretaries in two years. One subject for a mystery story he's holding out.

Between publicity notices John Peter Toohey turns out those Wilbur Jones tales for "Collier's."

"Holiday" has taken an indefinite one. Becomes part of "Travel" mag.

Because of Tiffany Thayer's superstition, "Call Her Savage" must not come out until May 25, birthday of "Thirteen Men."

Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., in the advertising business, but will continue to write fiction.

Eunice Hopewell didn't like the south of France last year, that's why she's going back "to see if it is any better." Does all sorts of writing except writing home for money.

Willem Hendrik Van Loon in Dutch again, meaning in Holland.

Ruth Waterbury and the rest of the girls on "Silver Screen" have a new office. Had to leave the partitions behind because they were nailed down.

"Forbes" mag has lured Chapin Hoskins away from Will Hays. Hoskins will be associate editor.

Know where Wilfred J. Funk got all the words in his new book of poems, "Manhattans, Bronxes and Queens?" From the Funk & Wagnalls dictionaries which he publishes.

Lester C. Grady editing "Film Fun."

Flashy booklet on the newsstands is entitled "Uncensored." The Truth About Rockne's Strange Death." Generally known Rockne had a fatal ailment.

The McGraw-Hill mags will go into the new building in another two months. Unless there will be a couple of more mags by then, making an addition necessary.

Farrar & Rinehart's new idea is publication of talking picture scripts in book form. Now selecting a trio with which to start off.

They say there's a Thomas Hardy manuscript, completed long before his death, which will never see publication. Not the reason why his American admirers recently erected a monument in his honor.

Even though Sinclair Lewis and Harcourt Brace are quits, latter is getting out a little book called "Why Sinclair Lewis Got the Nobel Prize." Consists of the red-headed battler's talk when receiving the award.

Horace Green's name goes on that of the Duffield publishing house, the outfit to be called Duffield & Green. He's headed the outfit for some time.

Publisher's Weekly misquotes Variety.

G. K. Chesterton only said those things about America because he couldn't find a single bed strong enough to hold his weight.

When Booth Tarkington and Harry Leon Wilson get together, who sharpens the pencils?

Max Lief has yet to make expenses from "Hangover."

Another "Scribner" contest, this time $1,000 for the best first person article.

Pair of Notices

Out in Chicago they say the Tribune will not be sold in McCormick's time; that R. R. McCormick caused a bulletin notice to be posted to that effect. Addressed to the managing editor of the Trib, the notice read:

Dear Mr. Beck:

I have not dignified the rumor of the sale of the Tribune nor do I intend to do so. But if any of our people are worried you can tell them the Tribune will not be sold in my time.

Sincerely yours,

McC.

McCormick is not so hot with the Tribune bunch, it is said. Two of the points that seem to stand against him are his cut of bonuses last Xmas and his handling of the Jake Lingle mess. McCormick's cousin, Joe Patterson of the New York Daily News, the Trib's eastern end, stands just in reverse.

No one on the Chi Trib, from the account, will admit which notice he preferred; that the Trib might be sold or McC's statement he would not permit that.

G. V. Mag

New Greenwich Village mag is out and known as "Man About Town." Meyer Horowitz, proprietor of the Greenwich Village Nut Club

(Continued on page 71)

"MARCH OF TIME"
Dramatized News
Commercial
WBBM, Chicago

After a couple of months on the air this program of dramatized newscasting still represents the apex in consciously developed radio showmanship. While perhaps not universal in appeal it is certainly provocative in form and potent in listener interest.

"Time," the pert journalistic vaudeville show, that romps so impishly through the week's news dispatches has built up over over 300,000 circulation on nothing more esoteric than breeziness. It has modernized the old adage that "personality is news" and the essence of personality is idiosyncrasy "Time" ranges all the way from broad hints to unveiled assertions.

In bring the "Time" technique to radio certain modifications are imperative. First there is radio's lack of elasticity and the needs of conforming to a cramped narrative style. But of cardinal consideration is the palpable obviousness that many of the personalities who are fair game in print enjoy immunity over the air. There are no known instances of a network carrying into the American parlor ridicule of the American chief executive. And in print "Time" has plenty of smart remarks about the said A. C. E.

No better or more devastating example of "Time" applied to the radio could be pointed out than their scenario of the Zelma Lewis plagiarism suit against Eugene O'Neil's "Strange Interlude." In reproducing the trial testimony in their program the effect was to drench Miss Lewis in cascades of ridicule. She was made to sound like a monumental nitwit. Here, plainly, is a dangerous weapon, a device for pulverizing reputations or for laughing a personality into public ignominy.

Cyrus Eaton, Cleveland capitalist had the doubtful pleasure of listening to himself being tagged as a bankrupt. "Time" quoted a utilities stock of his former control citing the 1929 high as 67, today's quote as 23. Proceeding to other stocks heavily held in past by Eaton it listed as contrasts 105 to10,175 to 60, etc. It gave a pretty dreadful picture of financial debacle. What effect this will have on Mr. Eaton's future credit is a nice question.

"Legs" Diamond gets murdered in one episode that might have been taken from a can of film. President Zamoro of Spain and the Catelonian governor are reproduced in outwardly effectionate concord but with an editorial question mark tacked on. A Chinese communist army steals, beats, and holds for ransom a couple of Lutheran soul-savers.

Most gratuitous and least worthy of inclusion was an anecdote dramatized to show how Peggy Hopkins Joyce by stepping out the front way avoided a summons-server in the alley of the Palace Theatre, New York. Incidentally she is playing the Palace, Chicago, week May 10.

Between the various incidents the orchestra booms in and fades out with various musical moods calculated to convey the serious or frivolous nature of the event. A stunt employed in the "copy" on behalf of the magazine itself might well be studied by other radio broadcasters anxious to escape the sing-songiness of conventional announcements. This uses a talker and an echo, or two announcers, one breaking in on the other. This heightens sales effectiveness markedly.

Tempo of program like its journalistic parent is fly- flip and fast.
Land.

GORDON STRING QUARTET
String Ensemble
WJZ, New York

One of the programs promoted by NBC's Artists Service to stimulate interest in music and indirectly promote for the engagement of the NBC artists heard. Russian Symphonic Choir was intended to have this period, but because Dema Harshberger, president of the Civic Concerts Service, was afflicted with a sore throat, Russian group was postponed and Gordon Quartet substituted.

Quartet is announced as the finest string ensemble to be found anywhere, an impressive enough announcement for any attraction. Ensemble sounds like an expert aggregation and plays finely. Purely a class group, feauring class artists and those who go in for concerts will like this group.

3 LITTLE SACHS
Songs and Talk
Commercial
WMCA, New York

No other combination in radio has a tougher grind than the Three Little Sachs. They are on daily at WMCA as a radio reason why people should patronize Sachs' stores. The trio sings and talks, with vocal harmony its main asset.

Yet a daily task, even though for 15 minutes, is something that requires constant attention, both in choice of songs and type of talk. At times the trio reels off some aimless and inane patter, but appears to place reliance in a quick vocal follow-up to offset the gags.

Trio has a following in the east and especially the metropolitan area.
Mark.

LYNNE OVERMAN AND CO.
Sketch
Commercial
WGY, Schenectady

Lynne Overman was the featured player in "A Wedding," comedy sketch by John Kirpatrick, presented in a half-hour evening broadcast over the WEAF network for RCA-Victor. Nathaniel Shilkret's Victor Symphony Orchestra opened and closed the program with a selection. John S. Young was the announcer.

Entertainment was of big time calibre all the way. These sketches, authored by playwrights of legit standing and presented each week with a different Broadway player in the main role, are among the best of their kind on the air. Smooth manner in which characters are introduced is indicative of the class. Brief plugs for the Victor radio given at the start and finish.

Shilkret's orchestra plays stock on this commercial.

Virginia Gardner, Eric Blore, John Knight, Charles Webster, Victoria Montgomery, Kate McComb were in support.
Conn.

JUNIOR DETECTIVES
Sketch
Commercial
WJZ, New York

A Saturday a. m. program for the kids. Judging by this skit, kids under the leadership of a captain, referred to as Captain Bascom, go around unravelling mysteries or mixing in with various adventures.

This skit was about a gang of bank robbers who escaped on a train. One of the kids sneaked on the robbers' train and exposed their hiding place. When the rest of the mob come up, the robbers have decamped, leaving the gold behind. Kids get the gold and thieves are later nabbed by police.

Atmosphere of railroad is brought over the air through the frequent use of the sound of a wireless ticking and noise of trains. Latter bits of atmosphere sometimes overdone and become too dominant.

For the kids should be of interest. Especially since don't have to go the school Saturday and have plenty time to listen to the radio.

A butter concern is the advertisers, with the kids told by the announcer to get their mothers to buy this particular brand of butter. Maybe their mothers don't want the kids to be salesmen. Pretty nervy.

RESCUE MISSION
KGEF, L. A.

One of those happy hours where the saved brothers come right into your living room and tell you the good things that happen to them after they are saved. Most of the brothers have come here from the east where things are tough, only to find them tougher here. They get saved and eat regularly until they get a job. It's a nice idea, but when the brothers do their stuff on the cornet and piano one wonders what they were saved for.

Mission's hour is taking the place of Rev. Bob Schuler, ranting local minister who talked himself in and out of jail and into a Federal investigation. He has quieted down a bit while waiting for the results of the investigation which may mean the closing of his station KGEF, owned by Trinty M. E. church, Schuler's pastorate.

Mission tries to get over the air that everybody's happy. Good idea, but few sour notes from a trumpeter murdering "Silver Threads Among the Gold" usually calls for a twist of the dials.

Nothing about the Mission's programs would cause listeners to linger at the station, but it's one of the things you have to listen to here when traveling from one end of the dial to the other. Plenty more like it.
Call.

NIAGARA-HUDSON
"New France"
Sketch, Orch.
Commercial
WEAF, New York

Sponsor of these programs presents a different sketch each week with the locale made the Niagara-Hudson territory, somewhere upstate New York. Last week's skit, April 30, was titled "New France," about the movement of the French settlers in this country to rescue Napoleon.

Opens with an Old Captain who once served under Nap, drilling some kids. Kids ask for a yarn. Cap tells how a certain traitor ruined Nap's chances of rehabilitating himself and forces in this country. Former Nap men who escaped to this country built a special house leading down to a lake through which they would smuggle Nap.

A Bourbon, formerly one of Nap's men, overhears the plan and reports it to the French government, killing any chance they ever had of getting Nap over here.

Captain starts the yarn which then swings into the spot where he left off with the characters spoken of continuing. Intermittenly, story drifts back to Captain telling it.

Orchestra led by William Daly, takes up the interludes. Close the program featuring a number of French songs.

Interesting short dramatic program.

BILLY VAN
Songs, Piano
KFOX, Long Beach, Cal.

Lots of personality and showmanship to this boy's offerings. He's on every now and then at nights at this station and has an hour to himself at midnight.

Good voice and an ace pianist, he should be on a bigger station. Similarity in work to Charlie Hamp is his big drawback; even uses some of Hamp's phrases. Should quit the imitation and strive for individual style. Sticks to vocalizing, with a gag between each rumber.

About the best bet on KFOX.
Call.

NORMAN PEARCE
Talk
Sustaining
WMCA, New York

WMCA gives Norman Pearce of the announcing staff plenty to do in the pinches. He generally steps in any station breach with readings of poems. This period is styled, "radiotorial," which covers a multitude of comment.

His theme was "what is wrong with your business?" yet Mr. Pearce's inclination to delve into the archives of history seemed rather vague and considerably off the tangent.

Chance here for Pearce to signalize himself as a business advocate in editorial comment that would prove of value to both the business man and woman who might be listening.

Several times he intimated he might say something about radio advertising and newspapers, but just skimmed the surface.
Mark.

Erva GILES & Edward MORRIS
Songs, Piano
Sustaining
WOKO, Albany

Miss Giles and Morris, veteran radio artists, who frequently have been heard over the WJZ network, recently made their first appearance before the mike of WOKO. Immediately stamped themselves as an ace duo of their type, presenting a musical program from the local Columbia station.

Initial WOKO program apparently was made possible by a reciprocal arrangement under which address and telephone number of the studio was twice mentioned during the half-hour broadcast, in return for artists' services.

One thing about this program, in fact, about virtually all the programs over WOKO, which could stand improvement is the announcing.

Harold E. Smith, studio manager, who was at the microphone, has a rather heavy, unmusical voice. His tone was so muffled, during the program in question, that the titles of several compositions could not be distinctly heard. Announcer allowed a sort of tired sigh to creep into his voice, which did not help matters.

Smith is undoubtedly overworked.
Span.

BUNNY and CEIL
Talk
Commercial
WMAQ, Chicago

Confected and put on with the hope of helping to sell femme undergarments. As a merchandising aid this program can do nothing but help lay an egg. Series offers a dumb gal type and her slangy, worldly pal in a crossfire of humorless banalities.

Episode caught used a baseball game background, with the savoire jane giving her sidekick the inside info on the fundamentals of the sport. Cluck questions attending were supposed to make for comedy.

Careless handling of the controls had the phonographic sound effects of yelling fans drowning out the chatter of the girl. Lasted seven minutes, instead of the ten allowed by broadcaster. Time remaining filled out by studio pianist.

If the contract has much longer to go, the advertiser could perhaps salvage something of his investment by changing the present script writer for a better gangster.

WORLD CLOTHING EXCHANGE
Songs and Orchestra
Commercial
WMCA, New York

Main argument in the commercial talk of this period was the $8.95 to $18.95 prices for clothing. Also that there were 100 salesmen at the exchange. That sounded big on the air. A hundred salesmen on some of those clothing store floors would not give customers standing room.

This period got started with a group of fox trots by the orchestra and then the station was suddenly shut off. On the resumption some minutes later the commercial received a second announcement.

Ordinary program. Band seemed to be playing mechanically. Even a vocal solo failed to arouse interest.

And a silly announcement that any listener could visit the exchange, mention that he heard the broadcast and receive a camelhair overcoat for $8.95. That followed a previous announcement that the store's set low price is $8.95.
Mark.

FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN
Talk
Commercial
WBBM, Chicago

Former film star is peddling Hollywood gossip under the commercial patronage of Kolorback, a method for restoring the youthful lustre and hue to those faded tresses. Program is on the air Fridays at nine over a Columbia nework tossed into Chicago through WBBM.

Gloria Swanson was the object of the Bushman gab last Friday (1) and her most recent release "Indiscreet" the presumed beneficiary. Bushman went further than he would or could go if he were employed currently in the films himself. He told intimate things about Gloria. In no sense derogatory, but more pointed than the conventional hooey desseminated about stars. It was hardly the sort of story Bruce Gallup, for example, would have prepared.

Talks take the form of dressing room reminiscences engaged in between Bushman and his valet named Bradley. Gloria Swanson's early pie-throwing days, her parting from Wallace Beery, her ritzed-up personality under Elinor Glyn's tutelage, her unhappy career as marchioness and her love of her children, all are alluded to.

Nothing revolutionary, but the copy is sufficiently snappy to provide in combination with Bushman's reputation and clear-cut, if slightly affected, diction a commercial program of probable benefit to the advertiser.
Land.

EAST and DUMKE
"Sisters of the Skillet"
Comedy, Songs
Commercial
WJZ, New York

Ed East and Ralph Dumke are one of the teams that turned from vaude to radio and made good. They are favorites on NBC and considered one of the outstanding daylight programs.

Team, now in New York, originated from Chicago with Jean Paul King, Chicago announcer, foiling for them and working in their comedy bits. When this program was caught Thursday (30), the boys were sustaining. Since then Procter & Gamble took over sponsorship of the programs.

They have one of the smartest comedy turns on the air. There's no lagging or forced patter. It's real hoke, something radio has needed.

Team answers any dizzy questions asked. That the fans enjoy their type of gagging is seen in the 4,300 fan letters which East and Dumke average weekly.

BAKER PROGRAM
Radio Disc
WGY, Schenectady

As radio discs go, this program of orchestra music and chatter, with harmony singing by a femme group, broadcast over WGY for 15-minute evening periods for Baker's chocolate, is above average. Sounds more like entertainment by players in PP. than the ordinary records for radio purposes.

Tone is neither as loud nor as mechanical as is usually the case, while timing and pacing is exceptionally good. Tuning in after opening announcement is made, a listener the first time might not be aware entertainment was of the wax variety.

Leader of orchestra also acts as m. c. Indulges in light chatter and wisecracking. Music is peppy.

There is quite a bit of plugging for the chocolate, including an offer of prizes for best single sentences on the product submitted by listeners.
Conn.

DEATH VALLEY DAYS
Sketch
Commercial
WENR, Chicago

Episodes from California gold-rush history dramatized into thirty minutes of monotonous blah-blah. Outstanding bit of boredom contributed by the story's narrator, given the moniker of "Old Ranger." This old timer from them thar gold hills does a neat bit of Back Bay enunciation, if it's intended as such. Same goes for the Spanish characters in the sketch.

Continuity of broadcast caught had every indication of sloppy conception and the dialog sounded as if it were being read out of the Congressional record. A couple of cowboy ballads and a tenor solo of a Spanish number were sparks of entertainment in the half-hour run-off.

Firm holding the bag for this one is the borax refiners with the twenty mule team.

WHITNEY TRIO
String Music
Sustaining
WMAQ, Chicago

Good string combo, hitting for the classics and semi pop stuff. Soothing music is a pleasant sleep potion or the other way around and the Whitney Trio will do either.

Heard in the morning between quotations on wheat and rye a Bach concerto or a Rubenstein prelude doesn't go bad. Business man tuning in with that tired feeling may feel better about his stock losses to the tune of say, Brahms' "Waltz in A Minor."
Conn.

JEWISH HOUR
Commercial
WCFL, Chicago

If other ether programs were laid out and broadcast in the same fashion as this Jewish period it would be just too bad for radio. More than half of this hour was taken up by weary and long drawn commercial announcements.

The Yiddish talent is very poor and very little of it. It is also apparent that the psychology of having all announcements in English while the rest is in Yiddish is questionable. Very doubtful whether many English speaking Jews are inclined to listen in, so where's the percentage?

No attention paid to continuity. Interruptions come frequently and usually at the wrong time. Every five or 10 minutes the announcer must cut in, regardless where and when. During a heavy dramatic scene climaxed by a prayer for a departed soul, the announcer bursts in with "Don't forget our non-combustible boots, folks." Then again a soulful balladist was still holding the last note and the announcer broke in with the spiel—Strulevitz' salami can be purchesed for 22c a pound.

Another instance was that of a lecturer (in English) starting off with an essay on marriage and happiness who turned out to be an executive from Ginsberg's Furniture Co. with a sales tag.

Important feature of period is Hyman Novak's dramatic troupe. Taking a condensed script of usually four acts this Co. turns out in something like 20 minutes and in five minute intervals. Yiddish plays essentially must personify action or it doesn't mean a thing. On the air it's just a reading and means even less.
Span.

"STATE STREET TOMORROW"
Orchestra and Songs
Commercial
KYW, Chicago

Herald-Examiner operating KYW has this program strictly tied up with the paper's advertising columns. Each of the eight department stores bunched to carry the toll on the night air show are heavy H-E newsprint patrons. Special broadcast rate given the octette is based on the amount of space going into the daily.

Program has nothing outstanding in the way of production technique or novelty. Perhaps that is why it has recently entered its second year. Its entertainment is directed to the femme who is on the outlook for bargains, in anticipation of the next day's shopping tour. Between musical numbers she gets much info, deftly hooked up with the department stores supporting the program.

Not every one of the eight stores is mentioned during the 20 minute runoff of the show. All depends on the number of orchestra or vocal bits used, with an individual store plug allotted for each intermission.

In Rex Maupin and studio combination the program has its prime feature for holding listener interest. Orchestra's jazz and light opera numbers well mixed to serve varied taste of the class solicited. Night broadcast was caught the warbling end of the show came from the Chicago Quartet, male group well known to local picture house fans and now under exclusive to "State Street Tomorrow."

GENERAL ELECTRIC
Commercial
KOA, Denver

Came on with a noisy rush and bang that might cause many to switch to another station. Sounds like circus band, trying to attract more listeners instead of trying to hold the ones they have.

Denver concert orchestra, led by Henry Trustman Ginsberg, is capable of far better music than the first of this program indicated, and as the hour progressed, proved it. It is better than many of the groups on chain broadcasts.

This program (April 21) was a slow affair, and presented listlessly.

PAUL CARSON
Organist
KFI, Los Angeles

Coming from the San Francisco studios of the NBC, Paul Carson's late hour organolog is soothing slumber stuff.

Performs on the New York Philharmonic organ and handles his console stuff in professional style.

Why hasn't any one thought of hooking up a slumber hour organist with a commercial such as mattresses or beds to convey the restful repose idea? It's a natural.
Abel.

MRS. KLEIN'S NOODLES
Commercial
WMAQ, Chicago

If Mrs. Klein's noodles don't become famous with Mrs. Klein's landsfrauen it'll be because the average Yiddish housewife has trouble enough understanding standard English, let alone a negro dialect.

"Aunt Jinny," on this program, goes in strong and all the way with that dialect in describing how deli-

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Par's Cheap Mid-Day Broadcasts, Talent for Nothing; Opportunity Idea

A radio laboratory for talent, wherein amateurs can mingle with professionals in the only semi-national broadcast of its kind, is part of the aerial exploitation covering nine states and over 500 of its theatres which Paramount-Publix has launched.

To broadcast three times weekly from the two New York stations, these half-hour programs are the most inexpensive in radio. The composite hour and a half on the air costs only $400 for which the Paramount, Rivoli and Rialto theatres on Broadway divide the expense. Just 220 cities and towns within the "Paramount on Parade" area, as the broadcasts are called, are responding. Fan mail has come from all of these.

Survey of the mail shows that the greatest fan following is in Brooklyn, 21% of the total being credited to those over the bridge. New Jersey is second with 15%, New York state third with 14%. Manhattan is next at 13%. The reception is also received in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Indiana, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio and Georgia.

Gratis Talent

Most of the talent, professional and amateur, donates its services. The angle, of course, is a hearing and possibly future work.

By comparison to the evening half hours given nationally by Paramount-Publix, the "Parade" broadcasts are a drop in the bucket in cost. And of the two, a bigger fan reaction is being credited the half country broadcasts.

Over a period of 13 weeks 39 broadcasts from the two local stations being used cost P-P $1,714. For 58 such broadcasts the 400 mike appearances, including soloists and acts, have not taxed "Parade" a cent in talent tribute. Program continuities never average over three minutes in sales talks to the half hour. Current pictures in Paramount's Broadway theatres are mentioned with brevities concerning the activities of Par's stars.

Figure Tele Will Do To Radio as Sound Did to Film Actors

When television arrives radio artists will undergo the same shaking up as the silent picture players experienced when sound bombshelled Hollywood. The broadcasters to be hit the worst, according to both radio and television experts, will be the crooners.

Natural voices with stage range will come into their own. Singers, it is estimated, will have to have at least enough vocal power to cover a distance of two feet from the mike. Reason for this is that the mike will have to be hidden when the air picture camera gets into action.

Right now the average crooner gets so close to the mike that even the audience in the sound-proof chamber can't hear him.

Besides which, the appearance thing will count importantly.

PHYSIC SAVED $1, DIDN'T CHARGE SELF

Chicago, May 5.

El Jahad, hooked up with a local station on a nightly soothsaying broadcast, tipped off the studio staff he was missing a valuable sparkler from his ring.

After a thorough search, it was suggested he use the lost and found columns. Psychic waited a week and then bought another stone to replace it.

He gives psychic advice to strangers for $1 a question.

Names for Commercials

Reported that NBC is negotiating to spot Georgie Jessel and Borrah Minnevitch on commercials.

According to reports, NBC is angling to place Minnevitch and his gang on a daily commercial program.

PUBLISHER FAVS

NBC Singers Warned About Too Much Plugging

NBC singers, alleged showing too much preference to one publisher's catalog, are being warned by the program department to cease this favoritism.

It is said the singers, for one reason or another, frequently believe themselves indebted to a publisher and, in order to do this publisher a favor, proceed to concentrate on his songs. It has been found among these singers showing preference that sometimes 90% of their material are published by one firm.

One singer, recently warned against the practice by NBC, insisted upon continuing to show preference for one publisher and told NBC they could either take it or leave it. NBC left it, and the singer was taken in by CBS.

Flood of 15 Suits Against Radio Totals $50,000,000 Damages

Wilmington, Del., May 5.

Supreme Court's opinion in the RCA anti-monopoly suit brought a flood of 15 cases into Federal Court here against that corporation. Cases are filed by independent companies which hope to collect a total of about $50,000,000 in triple damages from RCA on the precedent established in the original suit.

Charges are all substantially the same as those on which Judge Morris ruled RCA in violation of the Clayton anti-monopoly act for patent license agreements on radio tubes with other manufacturers. Supreme Court recently refused to hear an appeal from the Circuit Court which had sustained Judge Morris.

First of the series of cases will be heard here in June. They are filed by the following companies:

Northern Manufacturing Co., Mellotrone Tube Corp., Vesta Battery Corp., Fogarty Radio Co., Howard W. Ivins, receiver for Van Horne Co., Schnickerling Products Corp., Gold Seal Electrical Co., Sunlight Lamp Co., Universal Electrical Co., Diamond Vacuum Products Co., Continental Corp., Arcturus Radio Tube Co., Supertone Manufacturing Co., Ratheon, Inc., Marvin Radio Tube Corp.

$3,000,000 Coast Gross Is NBC's Anticipation

Hollywood, May 5.

The Pacific Coast division of NBC anticipates nearly $3,000,000 gross for 1931.

This, they said, is more than 50 per cent of the rival Columbia Broadcasting System's $5,000,000 gross business of last year.

RCA's New Experiment As Scanning Disc Sub.

RCA is reported working on a new television experiment, which will eliminate the scanning disc, now used for television sets.

In radio circles, it is said, RCA's new sight receiver, which it is now perfecting, is a new tube which does away with the scanning disc entirely, giving clearer sight reception.

Present scanning discs used in tele sets misses detail, as the lines of the disc cut across the pictures, giving them a half-tone screen effect.

Added Period for Austin

NBC will give Gene Austin, tenor, one more period weekly beginning May 9. Tenor currently does biweekly NBC broadcasts.

NBC declares it is doing this following complaints from the west that Austin is on too early. Current time spotting puts Austin on the air about 7.00. New period will spot him from 11.15 to 11.30.

Opposition Takes King Off East-Dumke Hour

Jean Paul King was removed from the East and Dumke programs when the duo started for Procter & Gamble Saturday.

King worked with the duo from Chicago as their foil. He was also on the Clara, Lu and Em program, which is sponsored by Supersuds. Since Supersuds and Proctor & Gamble are in competition with each other, Supersuds wouldn't permit King to remain with East and Dumke when Proctor & Gamble took their programs.

NBC Replacing Weak Acts with Special Disks

Hollywood, May 5.

Don Gilman, executive v. p. in charge of the Pacific coast division of NBC, has returned from a month in New York, and among the first things going into the works are more disk programs "canned" by the RCA-Victor recording laboratories in Hollywood for broadcast over NBC stations.

With the NBC network servicing six hours of chain programs, that leaves each station with about 10 hours of open time. This time in cities like Phoenix, San Diego, Portland, Tacoma, etc., is necessarily of a mediocre calibre, utilizing meagre local talent to tie in with the local merchants who can't go for much.

NBC figures that high-grade Victor disk programs will maintain the general average of their stations so that the public will not depend wholly on the chain programs.

Experience has been that they tune in on the better-grade chain programs, with the rest of each of the local stations' stuff getting the go-by. The disks, while "canned," will be primed to be of the same calibre as the other chain broadcast material.

DAYLIGHT SAVING JAMS UP RADIO SCHEDULES

Yearly arrival of daylight saving time causes plenty commotion in radio circles. Because certain advertisers take certain hours with a view to reaching the air audience at a specific time, schedule of radio stations has to undergo a complete change to conform with these programs.

NBC is now operating all its stations on daylight saving time. In many spots where its associated radio stations were located in cities where standard time is adhered to throughout the year, the stations were ordered to adjust their basis of operations to daylight time so that there will not be any mixup of programs. This shifts every program in spots where standard time is kept throughout the summer one hour ahead.

Under these plans 51 NBC stations located in cities where daylight saving is not in effect are operating on a daylight savings time schedule. In some cities these radio stations were forced to take their entire programs and shove them one hour ahead, to conform with the daylight saving schedule.

It also causes plenty grief with advertisers who go in for spotlight advertising in cities where standard time remains. These advertisers were at first doubtful whether to advertise the program on standard time basis or daylight saving. Latter was finally decided upon and is now adhered to.

It's About Time

Los Angeles, May 5.

Local Better Business Bureau will start checking all radio advertising and fraudulent statements, installing a set in their offices for that purpose.

Bureau now checks all advertising in newspapers with the same view in mind, sending their reports of any false statements to the newspapers, as well as warning the advertisers.

City ordinance prohibits misrepresentation.

Farmer and Mother Run Station In Farm's Barn—Sell Bargain Info

Chicago, May 5.

Charging listeners for information as to the location of merchandise advertised over the air is the grift worked by a station in the farmland interior of Wisconsin. Gag is chief source of revenue for the outlet, WIBU, a 100-watter operated in an old barn two miles south of Peynette.

Broadcaster's way around is to buzz the country side that a certain breed of heifer, for instance, can be picked up cheap, and then proceed to announce that whereabouts of same will be disclosed upon payment to the station of a two-bit piece.

Idea reported to have caught on solidly with the farmers in the district, to the point that the quarter intake is heavy enough to cover the station's operating expenses. Outlet's success is that field has owners of weekly newspapers in the listening area frowning at the growing skimpiness of the classified columns and reaching for an aspirin.

Owner and operator of this one-man radio station is William C. Forrest, a son of the soil with a talent for mechanical contriving. WIBU's transmitter is one of his own make, power for it being generated through a hookup of an old flivver motor to a windmill.

Ma Helps

His only aide in running the station is his 70-year-old mother, who serves as disc changer at the side of a portable victrola. Music is picked up by a microphone as it comes out of the machine and so carried to the transmitter. Forrest figured this method was good enough for his listeners, and thereby saving himself the cost of a turntable.

Recently when the overhead on new records got too stiff for him, Forrest sold two disc distributing outfits on the idea of letting him handle the Peynette agencies for them. Now that item is eliminated from the operating side of his balance sheet.

To give his air followers a real musical treat Forrest picks up a dance band each Saturday night at a resort some miles away. Got around the lines charges asked by the telephone company by stringing his own wires through trees.

FERDIE GROFE TESTING

A. & P.'s East-West Bands Will Compete

Chicago, May 5.

A. & P. Stores has decided to find out whether its women prospects prefer the strictly dance band type of music in place of the semi-symphonic variety broadcast by the chain's Gypsies. Experiment has Ferdie Grofe and a 15-piece band tied up 13 weeks on a 10-station hook-up, starting this week.

New broadcast set-up splits in two spots on NBC network contracted by the store combine, the A. & P. Gypsies taking the eastern stations and the Grofe combo being assigned a western group of outlets. Latter hookup will be handled out of NBC's local studios, the A. & P. program being the first commercial with a running time of one hour etherized by the Chicago unit.

Most of the Grofe band men will come from the Whiteman personnel. Also likely to be used for the A. & P. hour are several singers on the same payroll.

Grofe is second of the Whiteman staff to be tied up with a commercial originating from NBC, Chicago. Other is Roy Bargy, handling the music for the Maytag account.

NBC Setting Concert Tour of 1-Nighters For Cantor on Coast

NBC is arranging a concert tour of the Coast for Eddie Cantor when he finishes "Palmy Days" for United Artists, now in production. Mort Milman, of NBC's Artists' Bureau, is completing details for the tour.

According to present plans, Cantor is to play 14 one-night stands along the Coast, cities including San Francisco, Fresno, Oakland, San Diego, Seattle and others. Abe Lyman's orchestra, now at the Carthay Circle, Los Angeles, will accompany Cantor. Lyman will work on a straight salary, while Cantor will get a percentage of the gross.

NBC intends to book Cantor in auditoriums, theatres, etc. Network is asking a guarantee of $3,000 per date. It will charge $2.50 top admish to see Cantor.

Cantor is to let NBC know three weeks in advance when he will complete his film work so that NBC can complete all arrangements for the tour.

Coast Dailies Cutting On Radio's Publicity

Hollywood, May 5.

Local dailies, although denying the influence of the publishers association's shutdown on radio publicity, are cutting down free air space. Afternoon record omitted radio programs "by mistake" one day, deciding to discontinue thereafter to observe public reaction. Programs were back after four days, but given only one-third the former space. Programing is only of important broadcasts.

Examiner and Times are cutting also.

Ratoff Dialecting

Chicago, May 5.

Gregory Ratoff goes on the air over WBBM this week for a five-minute nightly plug of "Oh Promise Me" (musical), which opens here May 10.

Ratoff, producing the show locally, will test himself as a potential radio feature at the same time.

NBC'S 3-WEEK GESTURE

Carol Deis, who won the Atwater-Kent song contest, starts a series of bi-weekly NBC sustaining programs for three weeks tonight (Wednesday) before sailing for Europe May 21 to study voice culture over the summer. NBC's Artists' Bureau is giving Miss Deis the six periods as a friendly gesture on NBC's part.

For winning the Atwater-Kent first prize, Miss Deis received $5,000 in cash and a scholarship to the Curtis Institute, Philadelphia. Curtis Institute is paying for her European voice study.

Advertisers' Assn. Rules Against Talent Commish for Agencies

Chicago, May 5.

At their Detroit convention last week, the Association of National Advertisers passed a resolution condemning the growing practice of advertising agencies collecting commissions from radio talent. The association is composed of ad managers of large firms whose attitude naturally differs from that of the agency on the other side of the fence. Ruling fits in with other recent developments on the same subject.

Columbia Broadcasting, in undertaking to pay agencies 15%, provided talent was booked through Columbia, precipitated NBC to offer a similar proposition. This conflicted directly with the former official attitude of the Four A's which opposes agencies taking any part of network revenue. Under the Columbia and NBC plan it would actually mean that advertisers would pay talent a set price, plus artists' bureau and advertising agency commissions.

2nd Paris Comm'l

Second commercial broadcast ever to emanate from Paris and go out over the CBS wire here will be sponsored May 24 by I. J. Fox.

Fox and Paul Poiret will speak on styles from the Eiffel Tower, Paris. There will be no entertainment. The I. J. Fox company is a regular CBS account.

Only cities to get the program will be New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Cleveland.

Other single instance CBS had a commercial from Paris was over a year ago with Paramount-Publix sponsoring.

Backwoods 100-Watters to Be Given Scrutiny by Radio Dicks

Chicago, May 5.

As soon as the Federal Radio Commission has straightened out the scramble for high power and settled several other currently pressing problems, the spotlight will be turned on the life and habits of its backwoods progency.

Field investigators will be assigned to the sequestered hinterland regions to observe and report on how the 100-watters hidden among the tall pines, the lumbering hills and the prairie monsoons are behaving themselves.

Impetus to inquiry given by stories filtering into Washington regarding the high and low capers the rural broadcasters have been kicking up. They haven't been tales of off-color or sharp advertising practices but rather have had to do with small-town family feuds, petty political bickerings and scorchy gossip retailed over the air.

Warnings

Then again, despite repeated warnings, these unschooled lads of the hills and plains with a born flair for mechanics have been lax in keeping their home-made transmitting sets tuned in on the wave lengths assigned them. And as result they've been crashing into neighboring and distant air bands and burning up the patience of both the fellow broadcaster and dial listeners.

Evil reported as pretty well spread through the central south and southeast.

Wisconsin Stations Combining to Buck WTMJ's Adv. Hold

Chicago, May 5.

Eleven Wisconsin stations are reported working out a plan to hook up collectively on a chain rate for state and national advertisers. Meeting to form a permanent organization through which the pool will be operated has been called for May 10 in Fond du Lac.

Primary motive for the combine is to make an attempt to cut in on an almost complete monopoly of national merchandisers' accounts maintained by WTMJ, newspaper-owned Milwaukee outlet. Also to counteract the claim of the Milwaukee station that its broadcast covers the entire state, with such spread making needless the spotting of other Wisconisn air channels.

As the first move against the Milwaukee outlet, the pool proposes to get together on an eight to eleven station network rate, low enough to meet the big downstater's time charges. Next step will be to collect funds for an advertising campaign to ballyhoo the state's new chain setup.

At recent meeting of Wisconsin station owners in Madison, called to feel them out on the pooling idea, Pat Shannon was appointed temporary chairman.

Tough Summer Looms For Console Workers

The summer season looks like one of the toughest the organists will have had since sound first drove them out. They are being let out for the hot months all over the country.

Plenty organists who have been dropped for the season state that they do not have the finances to carry them through the warm weather and will turn to something else for a livelihood, not only for the summer but for good. They declare the position of an organist is today too precarious to gamble on, and that if they can get in some other line, they'll bid adieu to the console for ever.

GOLDEN AND HONOR

Neil Golden and his Herbert's Diamond Entertainers, an eleven-piece band, now playing the Loew time around New York ,was picked by the committee in charge of music to furnish the tunes for the big charity carnival held in Madison Square Garden yesterday (5).

Golden band was picked by the committee from a long list, all trying for the honor of playing for the elite of society's 400.

GUEST IDEA SPREADS

More Publicity Program Lure Leaving Commercials That Way

Commercials with sponsors that have used the same talent on a sustaining basis lately are switching over to the guest artist idea in bunches. Currently, there are more programs using the guest artist idea than ever before.

Radio claims that the reasons for popularity of the guest artist type of programs to be two-fold. One is that it brings more publicity, with a different guest artist each week giving the sponsor a better break in printed space, with the exception of a choice few programs that are outstanding.

Also, says radio solons, listeners tire more easily of the same talent each week than they do of different artists, with the change through guest talent avoiding that some.

LYMAN WALKS FROM L. A. HOTEL OVER TIFF

Hollywood, May 5.

After giving the Hotel Roosevelt notice last Friday (1) that he would leave on May 20, Abe Lyman walked out Saturday (2) after a spat with the management. Immediately after getting his notice, it seems, the management propositioned some of Lyman's boys to stay on with Sking, young singer in the band, acting as new leader.

Lyman's band goes to the Granada, Chicago. His Carthay Circle engagement ends May 20 and he returns to the Circle on Jan. 1 for a six months' engagement for his third season.

Henry Hilmstead takes the Roosevelt spot and George E. Stoll goes into the Circle meanwhile.

Lyman and Charles Vander, Roosevelt's publicist, engaged in fisticuffs Saturday night, with Lyman accusing the p. a. of trying to entice Austin Young away from him. Vander's alibi was that Young propositioned the Roosevelt and not vice versa.

Warners Give Notice To 7 N. J. Organists

Seven organists will be out of as many Warner theatres in the Jersey sector on May 15 in a retrenchment move of the theatre operating department. The organists all are under contract, but an alleged unknown four-weeks' notice clause contained therein will cut short the length of their employment.

The organists feel that responsibility for the hidden cancellation clause rests solely with the local musicians' union execs who steered the whole matter of contract signing last year.

Organists going out are Lee Woodbury at Oritani, Hackensack; Bert Fread, DeWitt, Bayonne; Jimmy Rich, Central, Jersey City; Frank Albanese, Ritz, Jersey City; George Latch, Fabian, Hoboken, and J. M. Hughes, Roosevelt, Union City.

Radio Engagements

Gladys Rice has signed a twenty-two-week contract to be featured on the Mobiloil hour over WEAF, New York.

Neysa McMein, artist, guest star on Armstrong Quaker, NBC, May 8.

Jack Whiting, Bond Sunshine, NBC, May 7.

Line-up of guest artists for the Tide-Water programs on CBS for the next few weeks are: Round-Towners, May 6; Schutt and Cornell, May 11; Barbara Maurel, May 13; Theo. Earle, May 15; Helen Nugent, May 18; Theo. Earle, Evan Evans and Larry Murphy, May 20 and Artelle Dixon, May 25.

Miriam Hopkins, Par-Publix, CBS, May 19.

Stanley Smith, Frances Shelley, Radio Round-Up, CBS, May 14.

Dorothea James, Vitality, CBS, May 20.

Hanshaw, Not Arnshaw

In Variety's Radio Review of the Bond Hour over WOR April 22 the featured singer was referred to as Miss Arnshaw.

Correct name is Annette Hanshaw.

Pop Wailing Wall

Hollywood, May 5.

Musical "wailing wall" is the new trend in ether and contemporaneous jazzique. The wailing, almost Semitic intonations in pop song renditions are the new trend in vocal delivery.

Takes in even the "dirty" school of blues, with the ha-cha-cha jazzists giving the round notes a mournful wistfulness in song rendition.

MERGER COMING OF COLUMBIA AND VICTOR

Stage for the ultimate merger of the Victor and the Columbia Phonograph Companies is being set in what is probably the biggest international musical combine known. It's being effected by the organization of a foreign control company that will combine the Columbia Gramophone Co., Victor's London subsid, and the Columbia Graphophone Co., holding corporation for the U. S. Columbia. The new company that will control all the Columbias is the Electric and Musical Industries, Ltd. The J. P. Morgan house is the bankers.

The plan for combining is on a share-for-share exchange of the American stock holdings of either of the two London companies for one share of the newly organized E.M.I., Ltd.

The deal marks the fadeout of the last big independent phonograph and disc maker and one of the pioneers. It also forges the final round-the-world link in the huge G.E.-NBC-RKO amusement circuit.

"Sleepy" Hall Quitting His Banjo for Marriage

Albany, N. Y., May 5.

"Sleepy" Hall may bid a fond adieu to his dance orchestra this June when he steps to the altar with Nancy Gwinne, daughter of Brig. Gen. R. H. Gillette. Hall closed here at the DeWitt Clinton hotel last week.

Reason for his retirement is that his parents-in-law are not enthusiastic about his continuance as a banjoist. So "Sleepy" is expected to hie himself to Montana, where he and his bride will make their residence.

NBC's Odd Agenting

Kansas City, May 1.

NBC's booking of two name bands, Duke Ellington and Paul Whiteman, here in opposition to each other, brought a loud squawk from the Newman. The Publix house had booked the Ellington band several weeks ago for the current week and gave it a lot of publicity.

A week ago it became known that the Whiteman band would play a two-day engagement at the Playmor ballroom Saturday (2) and Sunday (3).

Publix holler followed.

Song Seller's Break

Pleading guilty to selling a copyrighted song without the permission of the owners, Jerry Jacklone, 19, 360 West 42nd street, was given a suspended sentence in Special Sessions.

The boy was arrested when found selling copies of "Baby's Birthday Party" April 25, in front of 1516 Broadway without the permission of the Famous Music Corp.

CBS ADDS 3 STATIONS

The Columbia Broadcasting chain has been increased by three stations.

They are WAAB, Boston, WNOK, Knoxville and WIS, Columbia, S. C.

Ostenkamp Quits

Lynchburg, May 5.

Ted F. Ostenkamp has quit as director of programs for station WLVA, 100-watter here.

Resignation was said to have followed disagreement with station management. Ostenkamp came here seven months ago from WJAG, Norfolk.

NBC in West Will Route Headliners Over 9 Stations in 'New Faces' Plan

Hollywood, May 5.

New idea in theatrical "time" is the nine weeks of the NBC Radio Circuit emanating from San Francisco. Bruce Quisenberry, talent head of NBC out here, will rotate certain radio favorites for week stands over the air, starting here and going to Portland, Seattle, Spokane, Salt Lake, Denver, Phoenix, San Diego, Los Angeles and back to 'Frisco in that sequence.

Idea is to tie in with some local commercials, and probably permit a guest singer or instrumentalist to appear on the air every night for a full week, maybe more.

Then, too, if the radio act is any sort of a local name, it can tie in with the local RKO or Fox-WC house for personal appearances.

Since NBC owns about 50% of its own stations in the NBC chain, this booking arrangement is at least 50% assured, with the other NBC-serviced stations already agreeable to the proposition.

Contract NBC artists attached to the 'Frisco studios have been in that city two and three years consecutively. This rotation is regarded as a good thing generally and will also enable new talent to go to 'Frisco for engagements.

SHORT WAVE FIZZLE

NBC Fails to Hook Up Chicago-Berlin

Chicago, May 5.

Hellmut H. Hellmut, young German journalist-broadcaster, over here to etherize by short wave his impressions of America, fizzled on the Chicago angle of the stunt.

After all the excitement of greeting and sightseeing had been gone through, NBC, his host, found it didn't have a line available to take care of the broadcast at a time convenient all around. Plan had been to use the stockyards and grain pit as locales for a Berlin hookup by way of Schenectady.

25c SHEET MUSIC FROM ALL PUBS BY JUNE 1

Reduction of popular sheet music to a 25c. retail price will be put into effect by the entire industry before June 1, under present plans of the publishers. Standard wholesale price of 25c. retail which will be established by the publishers will figure at 16½c. for syndicates, jobbers, or dealers buying in over 100 lots. Radio Music, now selling its popular sheet music for 14c. introductory for the first 30 days, and 16½c. thereafter, will according to reports, eliminate the introductory price and join the rest of the trade in the 16½c. wholesale standard.

This slash in prices will be purely experimental. The publishers have given the syndicates no assurance that the 25c. price will be the future established figure for the industry. If the 25c. price increases sales, the publishers will then establish that as the permanent standard. If the slashed price does not help business after a reasonable period of time, the publishers will likely revert to old prices.

Although a number of publishers are optimistic regarding the future of sheet music for 25c., there are some who hold views to the contrary. These are the publishers who insist that a good song will sell no matter what the price. They do not believe the cut price will be of any great help. However, they plan falling in step with the rest of the trade to experiment with the new price.

Harms Moving in With Other WB Music Firms

Harms, Warner music subsid, will also move into the Witmark quarters, with both Witmark and Remicks, thus putting the three concerns into one space, under present plans. Remicks to move in shortly.

Harms move is said to be set for later. Under present Harms' lease in the Strand theatre building, they must move shortly with the triple consolidation said to be figured the logical move by the Warners.

DeSylva, Brown & Henderson have a year from this May to run on their present lease at 745 Seventh avenue, or this concern, according to inside info, would also move in with the Harms, Remick and Witmark trio in the same spot.

Each of its music units is figured to be a separate and distinctive proposition in itself by Warners and there is no thought at present in merging the four Warner music properties into one or two publishing units. All catalogs and managerial authority as now contained in each firm will be retained, it is said.

Marlo as Publisher

George Marlo, with DeSylva, Brown & Henderson for four and a half years in the professional department and who resigned from that firm last week, is opening his own music publishing house later this month.

The new firm will concentrate on one song at a time only with a small compact staff.

Bob Lightner's band follows Al Katz's Kittens into the Hollywood Restaurant, New York, next week.

KIDS ON RADIO AS MASS DRAW

Radio showmanship prompting one commercial to sponsor a Sunday morning program for kids turned out successfully enough, the air may try to vie more with pictures to land children.

Horn & Hardart, with nothing to sell to the kids, but believing that if it constructed a program built to especially appeal to children, and placed it on the air at a time when the kids would be home to receive it, it would get more adults as well as kids to listen in than otherwise. It recently took a full hour Sunday morning, using about 20 kids as entertainers. With the kids constantly dialed to that program, their parents, it is contended, are also forced to listen to it.

This commercial is also saving money on its Sunday morning periods, as station time prior to 6 p.m. is half of what it is after that hour. Besides that, kid entertainment don't cost the advertiser as much as adult entertainment would.

Kids are claimed the most responsive group of radio fans, taking a keen delight in writing fan letters about their favs. CBS and NBC each have a sustaining kiddie period over the week-end, which draws hordes of fan letters. Kids of all ages, some barely able to write, send in fan letters.

Working 1 Day Free For Economy in Music

General expense cutting among the music publishers has reached the downtown headquarters of Radio Music and starting last week each employee must donate one day of work without salary. It practically gives them just four days out of seven on which they collect.

The staff is moved around in shifts for the free day thing with some doing gratis duty while others are paid for the day, but with no one missed in this latest plan of retreachment hitting publishers along tin pan alley. So far, the uptown music staffs of Radio Music including Feist, Davis, Coots and Engel have not been touched with the four-day plan but it is said the staffs are ready for the bomb to drop any day.

That Cuban Influence

Bill Weiman, general sales manager for E. B. Marks, has sailed for Cuba, where he will attempt to sign up Cuban composers.

The Marks firm believes that the vogue of Cuban music, which came in with "Vendor," the Rumba has just started, and wants to be prepared for this type of melody in case the craze extends over another season.

Resenting Heavy Cut-Ins Before Ban Society Asking Publishers to Cancel

The American Society will shortly request all its publisher members who started on a rampage of wholesale cut-ins the two weeks prior to the ban to cancel all cut-in contracts.

To discover which of its publishers cut-in band leaders in wholesale lots shortly before April 20, when the ban went into effect, the Society may determine to examine all the publishers books. This it is permitted to do under its constitution.

This condition in the industry under which the publishers started to cut-in band leaders on a wholesale scale shortly before they knew the ban would be effective, was called to the attention of the Society by the story printed in Variety last week. A few individual publishers also phoned the Society and requested that something be done in the matter.

The Society will have no way of forcing the publishers to cancel the cut-in contracts made during those two weeks. All it can do is ask the publishers to cancel them of their own volition. If the publishers refuse, the Society will have to let the matter drop or seek some new method of having contracts killed. It is reported that if some of the publishers refuse to cancel the contracts at the request of the Society, the Society may try to shame them into it. It may do that by threatening to reveal publicly which of the publishers went on the wholesale cut-in rampage prior to the resolution taking effect.

Songs for which the Society intends asking the publishers to cancel the cut-in contracts, wherever entered into, are those which are still in manuscript form and which will not be published immediately. With those already issued or shortly to be worked on, the Society will take no action.

MORE COAST SHUTDOWNS

Los Angeles, May 5.

Only six music offices remaining open here in L. A. Sherman-Clay ceased May 1. Tubby Garon for Red Star has a shelf in the office of Marquis Ellis, local pub.

Remainder still headquartering in their hats.

VAUDE ONLY FOR BAND

A. F. of M. not Permitting Havana Orchestra Elsewhere

The Music Corp. of America is reported in a jam with the A. F. of M. over signing Don Azpiazu's Havana Orchestra, beyond time-limit in the U. S. The band was permitted to enter the country under a special permit to play 10 weeks of vaudeville only. At the end of the 10 weeks, they were to return to Havana.

M. C. A. placed the orchestra to play for them upon the completion of their present vaude dates. A. F. M. heard of it and threatened to bar all their members from the M. C. A. According to reports, efforts are being made to adjust matters with the union.

NBC also wanted to book Azpiazu on the air from accounts but cancelled those plans when informed the band could only play vaudeville with hotels, cafes, night clubs and radio out.

PUBS WANT INCREASE IN ROYALTY REVENUE

Revenue increase from public performance for profit and from mechanicals must be obtained if publishers are to exist, according to many of them.

Publishers are disgruntled over the revenue they are receiving under current licensing contracts of the M.P.P.A. and American Society. They contend the present income from these contracts to be far below their worth and far below that which they should rightfully receive.

Publishers excuse the limitations of the existing contracts with mechanicals on the ground that when they first entered into these contracts, many of which were for many years' duration, they had no idea of their intrinsic value.

It is contended that with sheet music and phonograph disc sales way down, it is upon royalties that their future rests.

Ways and means of increasing revenue from mechanicals when the present existing contracts expire are now being discussed.

April's Best Sellers

According to "Variety's" survey, the following songs were the six best sellers in sheet music for the month of April. Three are tied for No. 6.

1. "When Your Hair Has Turned to Silver" (Joe Morris).
2. "Wabash Moon" (Berlin).
3. "Two Hearts in Waltz Time" (Harms).
4. "Please Don't Talk About Me" (Remick).
5. "Walkin' My Baby Back Home" (DeSylva).
6. "Dream a Little Dream of Me." (Davis, C. & E.).

"Waltz You Saved for Me" (Feist).

"Whistling in the Dark" (Abe Olman).

REDUCE NUMBER OF SONGS, CRY OF MPPA

Ways and means of curtailing the present heavy output of songs will be discussed by the publishers at the annual meeting of the M.P.P.A., May 10.

Moot question of overproduction has been a subject for discussion in the trade for some time. Publishers have long recognized that the abundance of material is hurting the market, but have taken no means of limiting the output. They declare that there is no definite means of curbing the publication of songs.

John Paine, chairman of the M.P.P.A, declares that, according to present figures, 1,000 songs will be published by the publisher members of the M.P.P.A. during the current year. This is declared to be entirely too much material for the present market to digest healthily and is claimed one of the main causes keeping sheet music at its present low sales level.

It is said that the market now has 50% more material than it should have.

At the meeting, according to reports, the publishers will be urged to voluntarily limit the output of songs.

Radio Disc Cos. Purpose New Music Tax Plan

M.P.P.A. was again forced to postpone its plan to tax radio disc makers to have gone into effect last week, when the radio companies rebelled at the amount of the tax.

M.P.P.A. desired to tax the radio disc companies 50c per four minutes played. It notified the disc companies to this effect a fortnight ago and requested that their applications for licenses be in not later than last week. Radio disc companies at a meeting proposed legally fighting the tax. Later they appointed a committee, representing the Judson Radio Bureau, National Radio Advertisers, Sound Studios and Columbia Phonograph Company, to determine with a committee of publishers whether another fee could be work out. Publishers were represented by Saul Bornstein, Louis Bernstein, E. F. Bitner, Bobby Crawford and Walter Douglas.

Both committees met Monday (4), when it was decided that the radio disc firms be permitted to work out a contract of their own. This contract is to be presented to the publishers next Monday (11).

New tax the disc firms have in mind is a sliding scale, it is reported. It will be 50c per four minutes for a limited number of stations, 35c for a larger number of stations, and 25c thereafter.

Ellington Wants $10,000 For Second A-A Picture

Hollywood, May 5.

Duke Ellington's band is wanted again, with Amos 'n' Andy for their second Radio picture, but the colored jazzists are asking $10,000 a week, plus expenses.

Radio assures Ellington of better billing and prominence than in "Check and Double Check," where the band was only incidental.

Ellington received $5,000 a week and expenses for the first picture.

Cut to 10c Retail for Sheet Music Now Proposed by Panicky Publishers

There must be a radical cut in the price of sheet music if sales are ever to be revived, claim a few members of the industry who are now starting propaganda for a price war. These publishers are proposing a 10c retail price for sheet music, 7c wholesale, with Woolworth's as distributor.

The cut to 25c retail, state those advocating the radical cut, is not enough to help business. It is claimed that the music will still be sold for 30c by dealers in small towns who do not have syndicate opposition. Besides these music men state that 25c and 30c is entirely too high a price to ask for sheet music, especially in view of current conditions with every other commodity making a wholesale cut, and sheet music, called more of a luxury, still without a price change at all, except upwardly.

A few of the publishers who have been approached regarding 10c sheet music have stated that they will experiment with the 25c price first. After that they will see what remains to be done.

The music men advising the radical change in price say it will mean more profit today than when that price was the standard years ago. In those days publishers operated with an enormous overhead, from pluggers and piano rooms to gratis orchestration distribution. Also they had two or three men in numerous branch offices. Today, they add, most of that has been eliminated. Publishers have cut to the bone in every way and are now operating under less expense than ever.

Songwriters, it is believed by the radicals, will be willing to accept a 1c royalty on the basis of reaping more royalties on bulk sales.

It is also stressed that if the price is cut to 10c counter sales will return, as will the days of 1,000,000 circulation. They believe that if they give Woolworth a bona fide guarantee to keep a 7c wholesale price on sheet music Woolworth will return sheet music to their stores.

CUTTING ROYALTIES

Some Voluntarily Reduce to Get Durium Biz

Although the trade as a whole has not reduced its royalty for Durium, some of the publishers have voluntarily cut to 1c. flat from the former sliding scale.

With the receivers of Durium, Irving Trust Co., now paying royalties from the sale of the discs, the publishers who have made cuts are reported making more money. Since Durium cannot record some of the hit songs it desires because the publishers of those songs refuse to cut, it has turned to those who have voluntarily reduced royalties and are recording their songs, even though they are not in the big time class.

MUSIC PUBS OFFICES IN CHICAGO COSTLY

Chicago, May 5.

Economy slashes in practically all music publishing offices here is on its way ere summer depression sets in. Harms and Red Star are the first two to start wielding the axe. Jack Goodwin has been let out by the former and Phil Miller has left the latter.

Music situation locally is in a precarious way, with most of the offices overstaffed. With conditions what they are some of the music boys are talking of doubling up on space and cutting down the overhead.

Union situation regarding arrangers and piano players is another thing cutting in on the business, music men state. Local musicians' union has a set minimum for piano players to each office running as high as two and three to some offices. Union also requires that offices alternate pianists once in a while to take care of layoffs. And unlike New York or other cities music firms here must give four instead of two weeks notice to its piano staffs.

Present personnel lineup in Chicago music offices is topped by Feist with seven employees. De Sylva, Brown & Henderson is next with six; Berlin, Remick, Robbins and Witmark are manned with five each; Santley Bros. and Red Star three, and Harms, Sherman Clay, Donaldson, Famous and Ager, Yellen, Bornstein with two each. Only two single staffed offices in Freed-Powers and Abe Ullman.

MUSIC ARRANGERS IN CHI UNDER UNION FIRE

Chicago, May 5.

Music arrangers doing work for local publishing houses or publishers' representatives must be members in good standing of the Chicago Musicians' Union. Edict issued by James C. Petrillo, union's president, takes effect immediately.

Heads of publishers' offices were told at meeting called by Petrillo there were enough capable union arrangers to take care of local needs and there was no reason for any of the jobs going to nonmembers.

Figured that about 150 musicians make their living exclusively from arranging in Chicago and that about 40 percent of this number is not affiliated with the Federation.

Among those affected by order is the American Arrangers Association (local) with 24 members both union and otherwise. Organization advised to go all union or else its union members must break away.

Rolfe Barnstorming

Chicago, May 5.

For the first time since he's been on the air B. A. Rolfe will go barnstorming for NBC.

Lucky Strike orchestra will take a tour through the east and midwest starting late in the summer.

LEADING ORCHESTRAS DIRECTORY

DUKE ELLINGTON
and His Famous Orchestra
May 1, Newman Theatre, Kansas City, Mo.
Management of
IRVING MILLS
Mills Building, 46th St. and Broadway
New York, N. Y.

AL ERICKSON
And His RKOLIANS
NOW PLAYING
RKO Theatre, Los Angeles

PHIL FABELLO
and His
R-K-O Entertainers
Creators of the Fabello Policy
R-K-O COLISEUM, New York
Indefinitely

EVERETT HOAGLAND
And His Orchestra
GEORGE OLSEN CLUB
CULVER CITY, CALIF.
Management, M. C. A.

ABE LYMAN
and HIS ORCHESTRA
Musical Entertainment Plus
Second Year at the
CARTHAY CIRCLE
Los Angeles
Brunswick Records

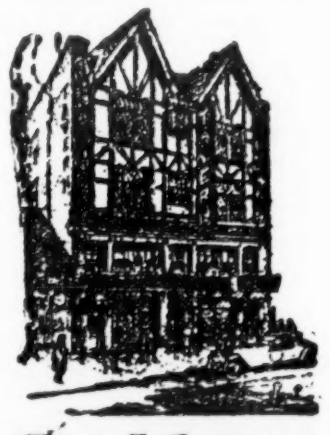
MARION McKAY
and his
ORCHESTRA
Biltmore Hotel, Dayton, Ohio,
Until May 1st

TED LEWIS
Personal Representative
H. HAROLD GUMM
1540 Broadway, New York
Exclusive Columbia Recording Artist
WM. MORRIS AGENCY

GEORGE OLSEN
AND HIS MUSIC
NETHERLAND PLAZA
CINCINNATI

JESSE STAFFORD
and His ORCHESTRA
Now in Third Year at
PALACE HOTEL
San Francisco
(BRUNSWICK RECORDS)

PAUL WHITEMAN
INDEFINITELY
Granada Club, Chicago
Personal Rep.: JAS. F. GILLESPIE



TAVERN
A CHOP HOUSE
OF EXCEPTIONAL MERIT
156-8 WEST 48TH STREET
East of Broadway

Again Chicago Scores
For
Charlie Agnew
has just opened at the Terrace Gardens, in the City of Great Bands, and will broadcast via KYW. Of course, he'll feature
"By the River Sainte Marie"
"99 Out of a Hundred Wanna be Loved"
"Were You Sincere"
"The Same as We Used to Do"
ROBBINS MUSIC CORPORATION
799 SEVENTH AVE
NEW YORK

THE
HOLLYWOOD COLLEGIANS
Featuring Their Original "RHYTHMIC ILLUMINATION"
Management—MATT KELLY—AL GROSSMAN OFFICE

B'way Bunch Squawks Against Radio's Self Sufficiency—Claims Need Showmen Over Programs

Broadway is becoming more and more embittered by the policy of the radio chains in the organization of their ether entertainment. The typical Broadwayites, who have always been identified with show business and who feel they might know something about it, too, haven't a chance to crash the radio field of entertainment as handled by the chain stations. This is what makes Broadway mad. This has always been the attitude of the radio bunch.

The chains are frank in saying they "don't want a Broadway tone" to their programs. They look upon anyone from Broadway as a hokester. They say the Broadway hoke may be okay on Broadway but not in sections touched by radio.

Maybe they're right, but Broadway is kicking and thinks it has a lot of pertinent remarks to make on the subject.

For instance, Broadway insists that it stands aghast when it hears of $2,000,000 fees paid by commercial companies for entertainment, when according to Broadway ideas radio programs grow more inferior all the time. There is a tremendous waste of money and much incompetence on all sides, Broadway says, because there is no show business psychology applied to radio entertainment and no people who know anything about show business responsible for that entertainment.

The radio business is so highly organized that radio programs are merely a by-products and responsibility for them is turned over to business men utterly unfamiliar with show business. While the radio people think that anyone from Broadway smacks of something foreign to their field, Broadway in turn says the radio programs are 'handled by a bunch of commuters," business men from the suburbs who come to their offices from the country and leave at night again for the country; who have never met anyone in show business and don't know anything about showmanship. This is not Broadway's idea of a showman, whether they are right or wrong. They feel that these radioites could never have learned anything about show business technique such as it should be and that there is no one competent to pass upon the programs.

Radio entertainment of the public is in the hands of advertising firms whose only concern is to allot the coin where they think will do the most good.

Waste

Under such an arrangement not only is there terrific waste but ridiculous situations come to light, say the Broadway mob. Sponsors, who are naturally interested in seeing the results of the money they spend, are freely allowed to pass on the entertainment and so mainly from a personal and layman viewpoint. They know nothing about show technique, so anything that sounds like a flash is allowed.

There is a joke to the effect that one extra oboe player in an orchestra on a commercial hour has only played six notes all season.

Sponsor Supervising

The attempt at interested supervision by sponsors is sometimes utterly naive. Peculiar and unfounded personal tastes are manifested and brought to bear upon the program. Many orchestras have been in the habit of opening their program with a crash of cymbals. This opening crash of cymbals of one commercial hour programs called forth a meeting of the directors' board of the hour's sponsors at which it was decided that no further cymbal crashes were to be heard from the orchestra on their hour. A letter was written to the program arranger, stating the decision of the directors' meeting.

A certain commercial hour orchestra is known to play at a most terrific rate of speed. This is because one of the elderly gentlemen sponsors believes that 80% of the radio audience dances to the orchestra music it hears. There is a gag about a singer on this hour who hit a high note and when he finished the orchestra was rehearsing for next week. The orchestra is worn out and bathed in perspiration at the end of each number but the sponsor insists on "peppy" music and this means fast music to him.

"Names" All They Know

In the selection of talent for the air the advertisers want "names" that they can show to the sponsors and will pay anything for them without knowing if they are okay on the air. And most auditions held to select any sort of air talent are mere farces in so far as having anyone present who is able or competent to judge the material submitted. Real showmen would not play "names" on the stage and pay them big money unless they proved capable of entertaining the public or drawing through the box office.

Even certain songs or programs are insisted on because of personal likes of the sponsors, that are unsuited to the artists or the orchestras. An artist engaged for commercial work becomes completely subsidized and is unable to do things as he would like and knows to be best. He must follow directions of the people who know less about the matter.

Such is Broadway's lament.

Brunswick Sues On Note

Charleston, W. Va., May 5.

Brunswick Radio corporation, New York, has filed notice of motion for judgment for $4,128 against the Radio Distributing company, of Huntington, in the Federal Court here.

The suit is based on a promissory note given for radio supplies, accessories and advertising.

BETTY BE CAREFUL

(Continued from page 62)

ing her sister. Benito, advised to be a cave man, acts that way after imbibing. He feeds her booze too and for the first time in her life, she seems to know what it is all about. Morning, with ma and pa on hand wanting to know. Elizabeth for once doesn't have her way, her inhibitions disappear and she clinches with Benito and likes it.

Few of the players are familiar. Margaret Mullen does rather well with the curious character Elizabeth. Mary Murray is the cute Judy with little to do. Helen Dumas is Pearl, placed into circulation when the boy friend went broke on the market.

Maybe "Betty Be Careful" will last beyond this week but only if cut rates can sell it. *Ibee.*

DEVIL IN THE MIND

Drama in two acts presented at the Fulton May 1 by Leo Bulgakov. Associates by arrangement with Isaac Dob Levine; adapted from the Russian of Leonid Andreyev by William L. Lawrence.

Dr. Anton Kerjen.....Leo Bulgakov
Prof. Semyonov.....Ian Wolfe
Alexey Savelov.....Bruce Elmore
Tanya Savelov.....Barbara Bulgakova
Sasha.....Muriel Campbell
Alexander Fedorovitch.....Gage Clarke
Darya.....Barbara Benedict
Vasilievne, nurse.....Daisy Johnson
Another Nure.....Barbara Benedict
Dr. Sergei Pryamoy.....Curtis Arnall
Masha.....Mary Holsman
Dr. Ivan Petrov.....Harold Johnsrud
Third Physician.....A. O. Huhn
Orderly.....Nicholas Baranoff

It is not unknown that Russian drama is morbid. In the Andreyev's play it seemed motivated with morbidity. Psychiatrists may be interested in the ravings of "Devil in the Mind," but what does it matter? It is as far from diversion as can be imagined.

Some intelligent first nighter murmured to his companion, seeking to know where the comedy relief came in Russian drama. The answer is intermission.

The play was first done by the Moscow Art Players some 16 years ago. That isn't important either. Devotees to arty theatre would doubtless think it exceptional if witnessing the thing in a tongue they couldn't understand. But insanity, no matter how faithfully played, is unpleasant. It is akin to a visit to Bellevue's observation ward for mental cases. Only those who have to, ever repeat.

Leo Bulgakov is a Russian actor of no little ability, but that doesn't mean he is good on every try. Perhaps he was on this first night. Not many could tell because he could not be heard. Everyone else was clear in enunciation except him. He directed the play, but forgot to get a director to direct himself.

"Devil in the Mind" is lighted and staged effectively. Nothing else stands out favorably. *Ibee.*

HERE AND THERE

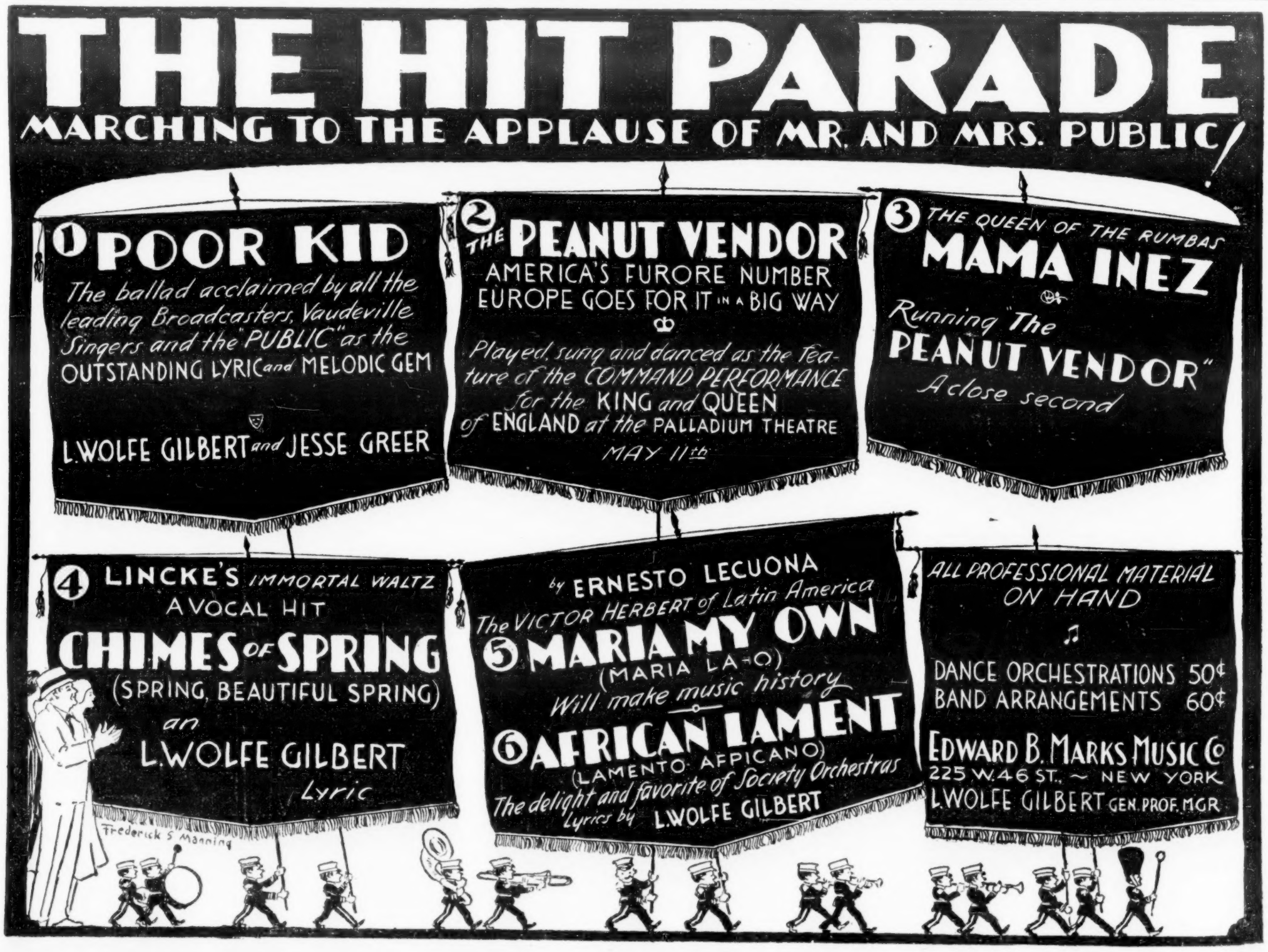
Adrian McDowell and his band opens at the Playmoor Ballroom, Kansas City, May 9.

Gus Arnheim at the Ambassador and Abe Lyman at the Roosevelt, Los Angeles, may have their orchestras broadcast over the NBC chain. Bruce Quisenberry, artists' manager for NBC, is in town from San Francisco to line them up.

Snooks Friedman Band replaced Florence Richardson at the Paramount Grill, Monday (4).

DAN RUSSO'S ORIOLES
Now Congress Hotel
CHICAGO
Broadcasting Nightly KYW

TUNE IN ON THE
Yeastfoamers Program
1:30 TO 2 P. M. C.S.T.
N.B.C. BLUE NETWORK
Featured in Chicago at Trianon-Aragon Ballrooms
Management
MUSIC CORPORATION OF AMERICA



CHAUTAUQUAS CAN'T BOOK 9 WEEKS

Chicago, May 5.

That thick fog hanging around the chautauqua offices at present is just the gloom that's been parked there since last year, but worse. Last year there was much howling because the season was clipped from about 25 weeks to between 14 and 20. This year, 20 weeks would be a miracle. The ordinary chautauqua is figuring on a season of from six to nine weeks, with doubts of even that much.

Routes of most of these chautauquas are so full of blanks that it'll take 'em 20 weeks to play the nine dates. The way things are organized, or disorganized, this year, it's impossible to get a consecutive route of more than two or three weeks.

Everybody is afraid this year, especially those leading citizens' committees which are counted on to put up the necessary coin for guarantee. That's the big weak point of chautauquas this year. They still demand guarantees, and the towns can't see it. Last year, the majority of the committees which guaranteed the chautauquas were forced to dig down into their own pockets to pay off. They are afraid of a repetition this year. This in spite of the fact that the guarantees are comparatively small, averaging between $250 and $300 a night.

Home Fixing

Bankers, who in the past, were the leading lights as guarantors, are all suddenly thinking of the new coat of paint the house needs or repairs to the plumbing. They're all set for an economy wave, which means the elimination of guarantees for traveling shows.

And without guarantees, the chautauquas are stuck. A couple of the more daring are considering taking a chance on their own. The majority are panicky about their drawing power without guarantee help, and are ready to call the whole deal off for the present.

Even the clubs, societies and churches, which formerly strong-armed the folks to sign up for tickets, are now afraid of forcing the issue, considering the tight money conditions in these small towns. Where formerly the church heads of the town could talk their members into subscribing for a number of tickets, they are this year getting turn-downs.

Radio is blamed much for the creeping death that is rapidly encompassing the chautauqua. The chautauqua concerts are only laughs now, since the home folks can dial in on Stokowski, Damrosch and the operatics. The same for the more popular music. In this instance, the chautauquas are finding it difficult to secure their old-time concert artists, for many of them have secured radio connections, and won't break away from the transmitters for an eight-week tent tour.

To a lesser degree, yet noticeably the radio has eroded away much of the popularity of the chautauqua lecturers. The townspeople now get international lecturers over the heterodyne. The chautauquas' one appeal in this case is the in-person angle.

Free Fair Gate Killed

Springfield, Ill., May 5.

The administration measure seeking "free gate" at the Illinois State Fair was killed in the House of Representatives last week, five votes short of the majority required to pass it.

Opponents made capital of the fair's $25,000 deficit and argued that the "free gate" would only add to the taxpayers' burden.

Another tidbit of political salt was the allegation that the daily cost of the fair has been built up until the patronage system is now costing almost as much daily as the University of Illinois.

Circus Booking

Charleston, W. Va., May 5.

Downie Brothers' circus will give two shows here Thursday afternoon and evening.

Hagenbeck-Wallace is scheduled for May 12.

Hoxie-Dodson Mix-Up

San Antonio, May 5.

Complicated legal tangle looms here over an alleged breach of contract by Jack Hoxie for an appearance with the Dodson World Fair. One suit for $200,000 has been filed and another $100,000 suit is probable.

Filed suit is from the Fair Carnival and asks the money from Hoxie, George La Dura, Carl Zonitz, the 101 Ranch shows and Col. Zack Miller. Miller is the operator of the 101 Ranch and La Dura and Sonitz are Hoxie's managers.

La Dura says he will file a counter suit for $100,000 on the grounds that Sonitz booked Hoxie without his (La Dura) knowledge. His suit will be against Sonitz, Hoxie, Col. Miller and 101 Ranch.

HAGENBECK-WALLACE'S "OR ELSE" IS STORAGE

Chicago, May 5.

John Ringling will give the Hagenbeck - Wallace circus four weeks in which to make good. If not making money within that period, he closes the trick.

This is the current understanding in the loop. Having closed already the Robinson show, the Hogenbeck - Wallace elimination would leave only the Barnum-Bailey show, Sparks, and the Sells-Floto.

CARNIVALS

(For current week (May 2-9) when not otherwise indicated.)

American Expo: Boswell, Pa.
Artdick: Bridgeport, Conn., 4-16.
Barkoot Bros.: Marshall, Mich.
Barnett & Schutz: Lexington, Mo.
Bunts: Martinsville, Va.
Carlson: Manistee, Mich.
California: Chicopee, Mass.
Coe Bros.: Jenkins, Ky.
Coleman Bros.: Hartford, Conn.
Conklin & Garrett: Vancouver, B. C.
Craft: Menlo Park, Calif.
Dehnert Expo: Ludlow, Ky.
Fairly: Lawrenceville, Ill.
Foley & Burk: Fresno, Calif.
Gibbs: Eureka, Kan.
Gloth: Cannonsburg, Pa.
Gray: Sarnia, Ont., Can.
Gooding: Portsmouth, O.
Greater Inter.: Chester, Pa.
Great Lakes: Rochester, N. Y.
Greenburg: Deming, N. M.
Hoffner: Canton, Ill.
Howard Bros.: Parkersburg, W. Va.
Hughey Bros.: Cumming, Ga.
Isler: Council Grove, Kan.
Jones: Washington, D. C.
Kaus: Portsmouth, Va.
Keystone: Blairsville, Pa.
Levit-Brown-Huggins: Salt Lake City, Utah.
Little Expo: Xenia, O.
Marks: Newport News, Va.
McLaughlin: Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Metropolitan: Hastings, Fla.
Miller: Evanston, Ill.
Model Shows of Am.: Bowling Green, Ky.
Morris & Castle: Salina, Kan.
National Expo.: Portsmouth, O.
Page: Greenville, Tenn.
Pearson: Vandalia, Ill.
Princess Olga: Mound City, Ill.
Prudent No. 1: Riverhead, L. I., 14-20.
Rubin & Cherry Model: Columbus, O., 11-16.
Sanger: Clinton, Ia.
Saskatchewan: Winnipeg, Man., Can.
Scott: Eaton, Colo.
Sheesley: Philadelphia, Pa.
Siebrand Bros.: Huron, S. D.
Sim: Brantford, Ont., Can.
Southern Tier: Elmira, N. Y.
Spencer: Latrobe, Pa.
Steffens: El Cerrito, Calif.
Sunset: Effingham, Ill.
Tidwell: Sweetwater, Tex.
Vitale & Mitchell: N. Sidney, N. C., Can.
Wade: Middleport, O.
Webb: Blytheville, Ark.
Wolf: Owatonna, Minn., 9-16.
Wolfe Superior: Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
World of Fun: Rahway, N. J.
Yellowstone: Elkhart, Kan.
Zarra: Bayonne, N. J.
Zimdars: Winona, Minn.

CIRCUSES

Al. G. Barnes

May 6, San Rafael, Cal.; 7, Petaluma, Cal.; 8, Healdsburg (afternoon only); 9, Eureka, Cal.; 10, Ukiah, Cal.; 11, Napa, Cal.; 12, Sacramento; 13, Marysville (afternoon only); 14, Reno, Nev.; 16, Klamath Falls, Ore.; 17, Montague, Cal. (afternoon only).

Downie Bros.

May 7, Charleston, W. Va.; 8, Spencer; 9, Marietta, O.

Hagenbeck-Wallace

May 8, Portsmouth, O.; 9, Huntington, W. Va.; 11, Beckley; 12, Charleston; 13, Parkersburg.

Milton Holland

May 7-12, Livingston, Mont.

Lee

May 8, Osceo, R. I.; 9, Voluntown.

Ringling-Barnum

April 27-May 9, Boston, Mass.

St. Leon Bros.

May 4-9, Bridgeport, Conn.

Sells-Floto

May 8, Richmond, Ind.; 9, Springfield, O.; 11, Columbus.

Sparks

May 9, Chester, Pa.

D. G. Barton's Job

Chicago, May 5.

D. G. Barton leaves Chicago on a five months' leave of absence from the Amusement Service Corp. to become assistant manager of Luna Park, Coney Island, under Rex Billings.

He takes up his eastern duties May 10. In October he will resume his vice-presidency of the Chicago agency.

ROBINSON'S PART OF H-W NEW 30-CAR SHOW

Cincinnati, May 5.

The Hagenbeck - Wallace circus opened its season here Monday (4). It is really combined with the Robinson show, that being advertised here only because of Robinson's high standing in local Masonic circles.

With the Robinson show not going out this year the H.-W. circus is to travel as a 30-car outfit. Previously it was a 22-car show.

The National Circus Corp., controlled by John Ringling, William Greve and Sam Gompertz, has a five-show line-up, the Ringling-Barnum, Sells-Floto, Barnes, Hagenbach-Wallace and Sparks.

N. E. Fair Folds

Springfield, Mass., May 5.

Unanimously agreed that they had reached the last ditch in a losing battle to arouse waning interest in rural fairs, members of the New England Agricultural Fairs Association voted to disband at the 19th annual meeting here.

Originally having a large membership from communities throughout New England, less than 20 attended the meeting.

Despite numerous suggestions for a remedy to the situation, in which the smaller, long-established country fairs have been forced to give way to the larger expositions, no decision could be reached.

Radio Reports

(Continued from page 64)

cious Mrs. Klein's noodles are with gefulte fish or a shmaltz herring

Imagine what a Yiddish frau, in the process of turning over a potato pancake, would make out of this line: "Folkses, yo' all ain' tasted no noodles nohow 'til yo' smack yo' lips ovah Missy Klein's home made noodles."

And "Aunt Jinny" tops her spiel with a parody. "Ninety-nine out of a hundred use our noodles, so why not you?" This "Aunt Jinny" sounds like a performer, now or formerly. Plenty of showmanship in her discourse. For a fare-thee-well she hums "Swance River" and that makes it perfect; but what's it go to do with Mrs. Klein's noodles? *Span.*

"BIG YANK"
Songs, Talk, Orch.
Radio Disc
Commercial
WOR, New York

First of a series of radio disc programs by a workshirt company. Program mainly straight musical with a little warbling of choruses included.

Character acting as the m. c. is named Big Yank after the advertiser. Has a deep voice and uses western dialect. Introduces numbers and spiels a bit about the songs although most of his talk revolves around the shirt.

The recording at first sounded scratchy, with that undeniable foreign noise which immediately stamped it as a disc.

Apparent trouble with radio discs is that the brasses in instrumental numbers always record so unevenly and blatantly repellent. Not so nice on the cardrums but giving a small time dance hall band effect.

GRAPEVINE RABBIT TWISTERS
Hillbilly
WFAA, Dallas

Broadcasting from a studio in the station's out-of-town transmitter at Grapevine, this act should leave a listener thinking himself in on a real backwoods program. The fiddle-guitar combo could pass easily for amateurs, whether intentionally or not.

Numbers like "Red Wings," "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain," were high spots in the usual monotonous tone, which, however, has its fans among the old timers. But would hardly do for a commercial, a fact accentuated by its midnight spot. *Rudy.*

"FORTUNE BUILDERS"
With Douglas Gilbert
Talk
Commercial
WABC, New York

Douglas Gilbert, New York newspaperman, is conducting these programs for the North American Trust Shares and the Cumulative Trust Shares, investment houses. Bank of America was supposed to be behind this program with it now reported Bancamerica-Blair is doing it.

Idea is to present men who are industrial leaders and tell how they built up their corporations. Gilbert dealt with George B. Courtelyou, president of the Consolidated Gas Company.

Gilbert is interesting on the air. He omits cut and dried stuff. Any listener will be interested in hearing about men who have built billion dollar corporations. Word billion is enough to start the interest.

Listeners are requested to send in for a booklet regarding investments.

NAHIGIAN BROS.
Oriental Orchestra
Commercial
WMAQ, Chicago

Evidently only a small combo but turning out the usual pleasing type of Oriental music. Nahigian is an Oriental rug concern, with that fact coming across the ether a little too often at the end of every number.

Incidental announcements include short sketches of how the rugs are woven in the Orient. Colorful stuff enhanced by the musical interpretation.

Nahigian program competes locally with the Olsen Rug hour. *Span.*

"RURAL FREE DELIVERY"
Commercial
KFOX, Long Beach, Cal.

Thirty minutes of what's supposed to happen at the country store, with an orchestra rehearsal thrown in. Great for Long Beach, western capital of Iowa.

Gags are rusty and no attempt at continuity. High spots of the program are three announcements made for the benefit of Dr. Chan, Chinese herbalist, who pays for the half hour.

Doc Chan has had some amazing results in the treatment of diseases too numerous to mention, but manages to get in a word about his success in treating "stubborn cases of bladder and kidney ailments."

The station otherwise claims to be thumbs down on blue gags, but you're liable to hear anything when you twist a dial in this part of the country.

Great for the kiddies. *Call.*

"THE MYSTERY VOICE"
Songs
Sustaining
WMCA, New York

A man announced the "Mystery Voice" sang "Wabash Moon" and "I Surrender" with the entire style of the tenor suggesting Morton Downey.

The program also introduced a 12-year old girl, Mildred Mayer, for one chorus. Then the announcement that these artists could be had through the station's artists' bureau. *Mark.*

DAN and SYLVIA
Talk
Commercial
WMAQ, Chicago

Daily News, operating this station under a separate corporation, spots this one nightly as a ballyhoo for the sheet, paying the full card rate and the ticket for this pair of patter artists. Dan Sigworth and the missus, who have been at it locally past two years, do the Dan-Sylvia gagging.

Romantic angle of this serial of minor attraction. What maintains the skit's steady interest is the occasional smiles and laughs to be got out of the complementary pair of characters, Clem and Minnie.

One a falsetto-voiced yoke, the other a fast, wisecracking bimbo with a nasal pitch. Nothing original about their material, but withal the closest approach to next-to-closing surefire hoke heard on the air hereabouts.

HARRY HOLMAN
"Adam Killjoy" (Sketch)
KFI, Los Angeles

Harry Holman's standard vaude sketch, "Adam Killjoy," listens and plays just as well on the air, as etherized over KFI, the local NBC spoke.

What Holman's idea was to kill off one of his best vaudeville sketches is beside the point, unless as might be deduced he was priming for a sure-fire test for commercial reasons. If a test, it's a click.

Holman's delivery and this type of act proves that sketch material is surefire for the "mike," but where can Holman get 52 such sketches a year?

The night before he did his stuff over KECA, the sister station of KFI, also controlled by Earle C. Anthony, the California Packard car distributor.

FORD and WALLACE
Songs and Talk
WJZ, New York

Mixed couple given the NBC wire every morning but Sunday. Team works along vaude style, shifting from song to comedy patter and vice versa.

Comedy patter can stand upbuilding. Kind of weak and lacks punch. Just patter and just a filler, with the comedy angle strived for lacking.

Songs compose the majority of the time. Harmony fair and familiar. Nothing out of the ordinary. Uke accompanies.

ALLIGATOR RAINCOAT ORCH.
Radio Disc
Commercial
WMCA, New York

Just a dance band in a plug program. Set announcement as to the Alligator raincoat's merits and whatnot, with topical band numbers and nothing new or novel either way.

Unmistakable indications of a recorded program.

The sponsor received more than its money's worth by the station's chief announcer's plugging. *Mark.*

Obituary

GERALD D. STOPP

Gerald Darfield Stopp, 37, assistant production director of NBC, died April 30 in New York after a long illness.

For several years he had been coaching NBC players and arranged the continuity for some of the radio sketches.

Mr. Stopp was a graduate of the University of Illinois and was an army captain during the war. He had once acted with the Provincetown Players.

Among some of the air productions he directed were the Biblical dramas, "Moonshine and Honeysuckle," Soconyland Sketches, "Great Moments in History" and "Retold Tales."

As a tribute to Mr. Stopp, excerpts from his own Biblical dramas were read Sunday (3), when his funeral was being held in the Little Church Around the Corner.

IRENE OLSEN

Irene Olsen, 29, actress, sister-in-law of the late Harry (Bell) Ennis, of the Variety staff, died suddenly of heart trouble at her home, 1,444 E. 15th Street, Brooklyn. Miss Olsen had been in apparent perfect health up to her death.

Miss Olsen had played ingenue parts in several Broadway shows and had appeared as principal support to Snub Pollard in talkers he made in the east. Her first stage appearance was with Gertrude Hoffman in vaudeville.

Three brothers and four sisters survive.

Interment in Evergreen cemetery, Brooklyn.

JOSEPH LEVIGARD

Joseph Levigard, 28 Universal studio executive, died in the Good Samaritan hospital, Los Angeles, April 28 following a mastoid operation. He had been employed at Universal seven years in several production capacities and was assistant to Henry MacRae in charge of serials, when he died.

Levigard was unmarried and is survived by his mother, living in Frankfurt, Germany.

WILLIAM S. COHILL

William S. Cohill, 48, one time legit and vaude actor, died suddenly of heart disease April 28 in Hollywood, Cal.

Cohill began his stage work as a juvenile in stock and later joined many road shows. He was married about 24 years ago to Maybelle Van Tassell, actress. The widow survives, as also does a cousin, Blanche Pennoyer, actress, and a sister.

When Actors' Equity opened its picture branch in New York, Cohill was assigned its management. He was casting director at Par's Astoria, L. I., plant, and in 1926 opened his own picture casting agency in Hollywood.

Body was brought east for interment in Woodlawn Cemtery, Brooklyn.

Frederick B. Howard, 62, many years property man at the New York Hippodrome and the old Academy of Music, died recently at South Norwalk, Conn., of heart trouble.

Ulric E. Duval, 33, picture operator, Publix Capitol, Worcester, Mass., was killed instantly last week in an auto accident.

Father (55) of Wally Allen (Loew's publicity department) died May 1 in New York.

Pauline Schram, mother of Fay Mason (vaude), died recently.

CHICAGO

Variety's Chicago Office

WOODS THEATRE BUILDING—CENTRAL 0644-4401

Englewood

Vaude bill was separated last week with the showing turns on first then the regulars. Previously the acts were mixed up. Makes little difference.

Preview section opened with Williams and Bernice, old time trampoline stuff. Nothing outstanding in the lineup that followed. Lillian Drew, singing and dancing; Sunbeam Wonders, juve duo, both girls; Rex Comedy Four, hoke comedy quartet on the order of the old Bison City Four and such, and the Gardner Sisters, harmony singing and dancing.

Opening the regular bill were Terrell and Fawcett, formerly Terrell and Hanley. Two boys doing knockabout comedy acrobatics and worthy of attention. Terrell has picked a good partner with both working hard. Sherman and Grant have been seen before but still doing an ancient song and dance routine.

Lovejoy's Collegians is a misnomer for that act. It's not even vaude. Why call a classical band collegiate? With 15 people the act makes a flash but is in need of restaging and reroutining.

Axel Christensen, vet piano monologist with a slight radio rep locally, made good in the next to closing spot. Christensen goes in for character recitations and songs and throws in a couple of imitations.

Eddie Matthews & Co., mild flash with a puny sister team and a better boy hoofer who holds them up, doesn't look like anything. Matthews is a fair to middlin' acrobat who tries to sell himself as a dancer and fails. He would do better sticking to flip flops.

"Lonely Wives" (Pathe) on screen. *Span.*

After a long and fairly successful season, the Kedzie (westside) closes its stock with its second week of "Lysistrata."

George Roberson, manager, is rehearsing a tent rep co. at Harvard, Ill., and opens in two weeks for a season in the midwest.

Galos Bros. have taken over the Windsor on the south and will call it the Ray.

Drake theatre (northwest), satisfied with its Sunday vaude show attempt, has commissioned the Tommy Sacco office to place stage shows in every week for Sunday and Monday stage policy.

Tivoli, Chattanooga, formerly booked out of Publix New York office, is now on local Wm. Morris books. House is a split week using only two acts.

Ralph Rose will open his stock company in Jackson, Mich., notwithstanding the Wright stock closed after 14 days. Rose plans a civic-subscription operation.

Butterfield, theatres are still spreading in Michigan with three new theatres to be built within the year. New house in Holland shows progress, and the big theatre in Big Rapids is being remodeled.

When in Chicago Visit These Hits

RKO STATE LAKE
LEW AYRES—JEAN HARLOW and ROBT. ARMSTRONG
in "IRON MAN"
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

BLACKSTONE Matinees Wed. and Sat.
John Golden presents the Frank Craven Comedy Smash Direct from Broadway
That's Gratitude
with Allan Dinehart—George W. Barbier

ADELPHI Mats. Wednesday and Saturday
SECOND CAPACITY MONTH
"The Ninth Guest"
The Great Mystery Thriller

PLAYHOUSE Mats. Wed.-Sat.
GEORGE E. WINTZ Presents
Jefferson DeAngelis
in "APRON STRINGS"
The Play You Have Been Waiting For

VARIETY BILLS

(Continued from page 48)

TACOMA, WASH.
Broadway
1st half (8-10)
H'lyw'd Collegians
Dorothy Crooker
UTICA, N. Y.
Avon (8)
"Headliners" I
Mel Klee
Mangean's Intern'l
Jennier & Buddy
Wells Winthr'p & S
Gay Sis
W'SHINGT'N, D.C.
Fox (8)
'Moonlight Revels'
Weston & Lyons
Charles Brugge
3 Melvin Bros
Freda Sullivan
Curry & Brown
Pierce & Lazelle
Sunkist Ens
W'RC'ST'R, MASS.
Fox Palace (8)
"Top o' World" I
Gene Morgan
Fawn & Jardon
Russell & Johnson
Sunkist Beauties

LONDON

Week May 4

FINSBURY PARK
Empire
Carmo's Magical M
MANCHESTER
Paramount
"Let's Go Native"
"Border Legion"
Parker & Babbs
Philippine 6
8 Tiller C'k'l Gir's
NEW CROSS
Empire
Arcadia
STRATFORD
Empire
Alexander & Mose

PROVINCIAL

BRIXTON
Astoria
"Raffles"
"Return of Dr Fu"
Kitchen Bd
P Mordow & Delso
FINSBURY PARK
Astoria
"Half Shot at S'
'Return of Dr Fu'
"Laces & Graces
Carlton Tiller Girls
Capps Bros & Sis
Doreen Thornton
Mary Honer
HANLEY
Grand
Gertie Gitana
G. H. Elliott Co
HULL
Palace
Stanelli & Edgar
Austal & Arthur
Howard Rogers
Clifford & Rhode
Coyne
Will Hay
Topsy-Turvy 2
Edward Victor
OLD KENT ROAD
'Halt Shot at S'
'Return of Dr Fu'
'Creations in Blue'
Plaza Tiller Girls
Georgina Graves
Vilma Delmar
STREATHAM
"Raffles"
'Return of Dr Fu'
"Rodeo Days"
The Rodeo Boys
The Dagotas
Par-Tiller Girls

CABARET BILLS

NEW YORK CITY

Beaux Arts
Madeline Randall
Avil C Rosby
Julius Klein
Wilma Cox
Grace Mitchell
Salvatori Orch
Central P'rk Casino
Ethel Merman
Moss & Fontana
Telephone Op'rat'rs
Leo Reisman Orch
Club Calais
Joe Lewis
Lillian Barnes
Jackie Maye
Frances Fay
Bernie M'xwell's Or
Connie's Inn
Ada Ward
Joyce Robinson
Louise Cook
Earl Tucker
Dotty Rhodes
Sonny Boy Dudley
Bessie Dudley
Meers & Meers
Willie Jackson
4 Bon Bon Boys
Cotton Club
Cora La Redd
Mild'd Washington
Sherman Robinson
Leitha Hill
Berry Bros
Alma Smith
Eddie Rector
Cotton Club Trio
Clarence Robinson
Swan & Lee
Marko Brown
Henri Wessels
4 Step Bros
Bobby Sawyer
Bunny Payne
Norman Attwood
Anise Bayer
Cab Calloway Orch
El Patio
Norma Terris
Ramon & Rosita
Emil Coleman Orch
Hollywood
N T G Rev
Katz Orch
Oakland's Terrace
Joe Wallace
Molly O'Dougherty
Helen Davis
The Grenadiers
Will Oakland
Lou Spring Orch
Paramount Grill
Gus Van
Lois Sterner
Billy Snyder
Flo Stearner
Al Young
Slate Bros
Richardson Orch
Salon Royal
Elizabeth Welsh
Kid Sneeze
Harvey White
Opal Cooper
Baby Face
International Orch
The Nest
Gwendolyn Posey
Clyde Parks
Hannah Sylvester
Lottie Gee
Mamie Smith
Village Nut Club
Nuty Fagan, M C
4 Eaton Boys
The Hartmans
Nick Lange
Badger & Muesler
Dave Abrams Orch
Village Barn
Hank Warren, M C
Eddie Ray
Hollywood Horse
Warren & Davis
Allan Daly
Johnny Russel
Harmonica Harry
Village Barn C'tups
Hicksville 4
Uncle J' Meadows
Chick Kennedy
Village Barn Slick's
Crockett's M't'n'rs
Winegar Orch

CHICAGO

Club Alabam
Dale Dyer
Billy Meyers
Al Wagner
Elmer Schobel
Marian Boyce
Ruby Abbott
Slater Brockman
Davie Unell Orch
Club Ambassadeur
Vivian Janis
Carmen
Effie Burton
Ellen Burke
Margie Tate
Charlie & Curley
Jimmy Noone Or
College Inn
Ben Bernie Orch
Colosimos
Del Estes
Masked Countess
Gypsy Lenore
Henriquis & Peggy
Bert & Percy
Dorothy Donnell
Art Buckley
Bobby Danders
Jimmy Meo Orch
Beach View Gard'n
Diane Thomas
Al & Aline
Alan MacLeod
Maurie Sherman Or
Fleur de Nor
Linda & Drigo
Clayton Forbes
Phileman La Point
Eliz O'Donnell
Bonita Frede
Larry Forbes Orch
Frolics
Earl Rickard
Alice Wellman
Patsey & Mickey
Sylvia & Clemence
Babe Belmore
Chas Kaley Orch
Golden Pumpkin
Jack Cook
Cerena & Vallan
Evelyn Carmen
Murial Parker
Jack Chapman Or
Granada
A & N Selby
Val Vestoff
Fuzzy Knight
Jan Garber Orch
Grand Terrace
Brown & McGraw
Vivian Brown
Tesse Crier
Earl Hines Orch
Mack's Club
Sir Harry Glyn
Trudy Davidson
Harvey & Jones
Keith Beecher Or
Miro Lago
H'ward Thomas Or
Show Boat
Vivian West
Jean Miles
Anabelle
L Armstrong Orch
Vanity Fair
Clyde Snyder
Dolly Joyce
Joan Houston
Sunny Ray
Mitzi McGlynn
Gussie Ray
Louise Joyce
Leo Wolf Orch

Mutual Wheel

Weeks of May 11th and 18th

Cabaret Girls—Trocadero, Philadelphia; 18, Route No. 1.

California Beauties—Fox's Jamaica, New York; 18, Trocadero, Philadelphia.

Fashion Follies—Star, Brooklyn; 18, Fox's Jamaica, New York.

Fun & Frivolity—Gayety, Baltimore; 18, Gayety, Washington.

Hello Broadway—Howard, Boston; 18, Star, Brooklyn.

Mirth Parade—Route No. 1; 18, Gayety, Baltimore.

Palm Beach Scandals — Lyric, Bridgeport; 18, Howard, Boston.

Round the Town—Gayety, Washington; 18, Hudson, Union City.

White Crooks—Hudson, Union City; 18, L. O.

HE

(Continued from page 62)

Pedro de Cordoba a step or two behind.

Chester Erskine's adaptation and staging of the play is imaginative and satisfactory. In fact, the Guild has given "He" every possible aid. It still remains, however, a doubtful quantity for the average theatregoer. *Waters.*

FRIENDSHIP

Atlantic City, May 5.

At the Apollo last evening George M. Cohan put on his new play, "Friendship," which, by that or any other name, would still be a gay and witty burlesque on all the romances found between the covers of the Ladies' Home Journal. It is also a mystery play, the chief mystery being the target at which Cohan is aiming, if he is aiming at anything other than baffling those of his audience who would provide him with an aim. It's just that kind of a play.

Joe Townsend has been for three years the more than guardian angel of a young girl whom he has taken from a cabaret to educate and make a companion of her. As the play opens she is about to leave him to marry a young aspiring author. The balance of the evening is occupied with the traditionally devious courses that love must run in any novel, especially that written by Louise Dale (Lee Patrick), Cohan's own heroine.

Honored romantic situation follows one another, but it is quite obvious that the author has his tongue in his cheek. A lingual gesture and carefully and capably copied by Minor Watson in his friend whose friendship evidently provides the title for the play.

Cohan's one serious moment is delivered in a dressing down of the would-be bridegroom. This takes the form of a bringing to earth of those of the younger generation who mouth what they fondly believe to be liberal views on life and morals. These youngsters Cohan attempts to disabuse of the idea that the philosophy of their parents is out of date. Then only does his tongue resume its normal position.

The cast which also included Beatrice Moreland, Clifford Jones, Robert C. Fisher (special good performance), and Helen F. Cohan, George M.'s daughter, gave just the right shade and color to keep the audience guessing whether they were witnessing a serious comedy or a burlesque drama.

Well directed and well acted no matter what it was. *Weintraub.*

ONE MORE NIGHT

Philadelphia, May 5.

"One More Night," latest for Irene Bordoni, which opened last night at the Forrest, has a long way to travel before it reaches hit possibilities. Presented by Galen Bogue and programed as a "New Intimate Musical Divertissement," this combination of French farce and American musical comedy impresses as the weakest piece Miss Bordoni has had in a long time, despite the admirable contributions of the star herself.

Miss Bordoni, again slim and, as always, vivacious, puts across her five or six song numbers with all her familiar throaty effectiveness, and exerts all her old appeal as a skillful and personable farceuse. Her ability to make every man in the audience think she is singing to him, her vivid gestures and her charming accent are all there and unspoiled by her two years' absence.

Unfortunately, there is nothing to accompany them save Herman Hupfeld's tuneful score which deserves a better show. Such numbers as "Jack and Jill," "Mon Amour Cheri" and "If I could Say to You in English What I'm Thinking of You in French" should find favor with Bordoni fans and song-hit seekers in general. After the first half hour the audience finds itself waiting for one of the tunes to enliven the proceedings.

Russell Medcraft, who has collaborated on several hits, has adapted "One More Night" from the French of Louis Verneuil. One of the two, or both, must have been napping in this case.

The scene is an English ancestral estate whose eldest son is to marry an American heiress to raise money to save the family homestead (the script actually uses the expression, "If you don't marry her tomorrow, the mortgage will be foreclosed," but the Hon. Ronald Beresford is in love with a gal named Colette and he is so determined to break up his nuptials with the American heiress that she invades the dignified manor house and proceeds to start a love campaign on her own account. It includes vamping all male members of the household.

Her sweetheart, slothful and timid, wants to get rid of her for politic reasons, but her machinations finally win the day and him.

The comedy, except when raised up by the personal contributions of Miss Bordoni and, to a slightly lesser extent, those of Eric Blore, is painful and flat. The familiar "Gallic sparkle" is notable by its complete absence save in the performance of the star. Blore does some clever mugging as a kind of butler with an ambition to become a dress designer, but he is too good a comedian to be wasted on this kind of twaddle.

The staging of last night's performance about the worst seen here in several seasons, even making allowance for the newness of the show. In the second act bedroom scene, the hero spoiled the whole effect of a boisterously effective farcical bit, by exiting into what was supposed to be the bathroom instead of into the hall. A chorus of eight girls, there for no good purpose, entered by the same door.

"One More Night" will add nothing to Bordoni's reputation, although she herself is still her old attractive self. *Waters.*

THE NIGHT TRAIN

Brussels, April 26.

"Le Train de Nuit" ("The Night Train"), in three acts, by Paul Max, had its premiere at the local Parc theatre. Called a comedy it was so accepted by an audience whose enthusiasm was probably engendered through the first performance of a play by a Belgian author, mainly played by Belgian artists. Such events are rare.

In the first act a medley of passengers are awaiting the last train to Paris in a country station. Arrives a young woman in tears, just fired from her post as governess in a nearby chateau.

Then Andre, very modern youth who, after dismissing his fiancee, Odette, with a kiss, endeavors to comfort Fernande. They miss the train and pass the night, very properly, in the station waiting room.

Next morning, for the second act, they are in Andre's smart Paris flat, where the friendship continues to be platonic, because Fernande loves the divorced son with two children of her late employer. Maurice is his name and somehow he walks into Andre's apartment while that young man is absent and persuades the virtuous Fernande to "become a second mother to my two children."

Andre, finding his flat empty rushes off to Algeria to search for the escaped bird. He stays there three weeks, returns and marries Odette.

The piece just a useful stop-gap for the Parc stock company.

Dropping off the radio of Jo Ranson's title on the Brooklyn Eagle made Ranson its editor. Ranson, however, remains radio editor of the Eagle.

PATIENTS IN SARANAC WITH ADDRESSES

Saranac Lake, N. Y., May 2.

Anyone of the American show business anywhere who is an invalid and might wish to receive Variety regularly will be placed upon Variety's complimentary list if forwarding name and address to Variety, New York City.

Below are the show people at present at this health resort:

N. V. A. San.

Thomas Abbott.
Helen Antalek.
Florenz Ames.
Mae Armitage.
Fred Bachman.
Allie Bagley.
Happy Benway.
Fred Buck.
Alice Carman.
Harry Clark.
Ethel Clouds.
Monroe Colman.
Mae Delany.
Frisco DeVere.
Xela Edwards.
Harry English.
Andreas Erving.
Kitty Flynn.
Ingret Fisher.
Doris Giltrap.
Chris Hagedorn.
Dorothy Harvard.
George Harmon.
Bobby Hatz.
William Holly.
Ida Howard.
Millie Jasper.
Valentine Kincaid.
Tots Koban.
Julia Kubas.
Dick Kuni.
Lilly Leonora.
Jack Lewis.
Chas. Libecap.
John Louden.
Mike McMamee.
Lawrence McCarthy.
Doris Moore.
Richard Moore.
Harry Namba.
George Neville.
Helen O'Reilly.
Gladys Palmer.
Angela Papulis.
Annamae Powers.
Nellie Quealy.
C. J. Quinn.
Ford Raymond.
Constance Reeves.
Fred Rith.
Ben Schaffer.
Toni Temple.
Catherine Vogelle.
Eddie Voss.

Arthur Alverst, 15 River street.
Harry Barrett, 302 Broadway.
Charley Barrett, 302 Broadway.
Charley Borde' y, Berkeley Apts.
Walter Daley, 10 Baker street.
Eddie Diamond, 20 River street.
Margaret Groves, Clancy Cottage
James Haegney, 6 Military road.
Dave (DDH) Hall, 23½ Franklin avenue.
Mandy Kay, Clancy Cottage.
Russ Kelly, 19 Broadway.
Andrew Molony, 19 Broadway.
Jack Nicoll, Clancy Cottage.
Joe Reilly, 45 Franklin street.
Jean Steele, Clancy Cotage.

Write Often to Those You Know in SARANAC

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New City Hall Square Hotel
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Rates for an outside room with private bath:
$2.25 per day, single.
$14 per week, single.
$2.50 per day, double.
$15 per week, double.
Large outside room with twin beds (private bath), $3 per day or $18 per week.

$1.50 1 or 2 PERSONS IN ROOM
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HOTEL SARATOGA
CHICAGO
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Especially Catering to Show Folks
Phone, Rand. 7020 23 South Dearborn
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CHICAGO
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$1.50 ROOM WITH SHOWER BATH
$2.00 ROOM WITH TUB BATH
$14.00 PER WEEK WITH TUB BATH (DOUBLE)

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FRENCH ROOM—2ND FLOOR
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Two Rooms and Kitchenette $40.00 a week, $145.00 a month
Hotel Rooms $17.50 a week
OHIO, STATE, MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

HOLLYWOOD

and Los Angeles

"Variety's" Office, 6282 Hollywood Blvd., at Vine St. (Taft Bldg.)
Phone Hollywood 6141

Biltmore, local Erlanger house, will continue its policy of weekly change German film operettas. Currently "His Love Song." "Vienna, City of Song," and "Three Loves" follow.

Ebell Club, local woman's club, produces "The Lavender Patch," original musical, with book by Ed Poland and Horace Sinclair; lyrics and story by Zeffie Tilberry, character actress; music by Sidney Bracy, picture actor; June 4 for three nights in the Wilshire-Ebell theatre.

Same organization put on an original operetta, "Isle of Cuckoo," here last week to indifferent results.

Assignments

Walter Miller, Universal serial.

Ronald Colman, "Arrowsmith," UA.

Lumsden Hare, "Co-respondent," FN.

Eddie Nugent, "Night Nurse," FN.

Robert Homans, "Black Camel," Fox.

Julian Josephson, writing staff, Fox.

Arline Judge, "The Next Corner," Radio.

Ralph Cedar to gag "Gangster's Wife," RKO-Pathe.

Eddie Kane, George Cowl, "Son of the Rajah," Metro.

Lita Chevret, Arline Judge, Ruth Weston, "Helga," Radio.

C. Aubrey Smith, Beryl Mercer, "Man in Possession," Metro.

Alberta Vaughn, Stepin Fetchit, "Wild Horse," Allied (Tec-Art).

Tom Ricketts, Beulah Hutton, Walter Miller, "Danger Island," U.

Roy D'Arcy, "Ropes of Sand," Miracle Pictures. Mike Miggins, former Fox unit manager, will supervise.

Jack Jevne, adaptation, continuity and assist on dialog of "Honeymoon Lane," Sono-Art.

Ralph Graves and Eliot Clauson to adapt, Harry Pollard direct, and Larry Weingarten produce, "Pig Boats," Metro.

Complete cast "Danger Island," Universal serial: Kenneth Harlan, Lucille Brown, Beulah Hutton, Walter Miller, Tom Ricketts and William Thorne.

Edgar Kennedy, Florence Lake, Dot Farley, Billy Eugene, "Lemon Meringue," Pathe comedy directed by Harry Sweet.

Irene Kuhn, Fox writing import from the New York "News," has been teamed with Hugh Stange for her first, an adaptation of the play, "Monkey Talks."

Shirley Grey, legit ingenue just put under contract by Sam Goldwyn, lent to Radio for "The Reckoner," opposite Richard Dix.

Allen Rivken and Bill Halligan, adaptation "Law of the Night," by Samuel Ornitz and Lester Cohen, to be retitled "Exposed," Radio.

Anita Paige, "Sidewalks of New York," Metro.

No more Fanchon & Marco tryouts for the Fox Colorado, Pasadena. House is straight pictures since the argument over number in stage crew.

Industry's club women contacts are attending the biennial council of the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Phoenix, Ariz. Mrs. Alice Ames Winter speaks for the Hays office. Lola Gentry, of the Film Board, and Ryllis Hemington, of Fox-WC, are with her.

"Evening Herald" intends no downward revision in amusement advertising. Paper's ad exec says certain agencies are trying to muscle a commission, not now allowed by papers here. Theatres anticipated, if the "Herald" cut, the "Morning Times" would follow.

"Ten Nights in a Barroom," co-op, lasted three nights at the Orange Grove theatre. Stage hands wouldn't gamble. Harry Kirby, producer, hung out a sign: "Closed due to illness of one of our stars."

Ben Erway goes to Salt Lake as lead for the Hale Munier Players.

New Fanchon & Marco bookings are Les Ghezzis, Zelda Santley and the Bruno Weiss Trio.

LITERATI

(Continued from page 63)

and the Village Barn is the publisher.

It's a bi-monthly, selling at 10c.

Better For Pulp-Paper Mags

Business so good for the pulp-paper mags, the various houses not only buying material in quantity, but also planning a number of new publications.

Clayton will get out at least two new ones, Fiction House will add one or more to the list, and Harold Hersey will get out some new ones as ever.

Harry Bates will edit the two new Clayton mags, one devoted to ghost stories, the other to the Sabatini costume romance type of tale. Latter will be something new. The new Fiction House mag policy not decided upon yet. New Hersey publications will go in for underworld tales.

All the mags now buying as much as ever, with top price around 2c a word. Even Street & Smith purchasing in quantity for all its mags, that concern having held the purse strings tight for some time. "Grubstreets" see a good summer ahead.

Less Books in Germany

Due to the depressed economic conditions, new German books have decreased.

During the first three months of 1930, 3,317 books were published over there. In the corresponding period of the current year, 3,074 books appeared, a decrease of more than 7%.

When Ade Was Ill

George Ade was seriously ill in a Lynchburg, Va., hotel for a week without any one knowing it except his physician, two nurses and hotel staff, Ade begged everybody to keep his visit secret because of alleged fear he would be besieged by "reporters and autograph hunters."

Two weeks later, doctor decided to tell world he'd treated the famous Ade. Latter sent him manuscript of an original poem entitled "The Microbe's Serenade," two autographed plays and a number of photos of his home at Brook, Ind. Doctor was so proud he couldn't keep quiet any longer.

Japan's Screen Rep

Shinichiro Kudo, Japanese newspaperman is in Hollywood permanently as screen rep. of two Nippon newspapers, the Oska Mainichi and Tokio Nichinichi.

Kudo will headquarter at the United Press office. He is the first important Japanese paper contact locally.

Refusing Revisions

Cape & Smith had "Beer and Blood," the original of the Warner film, "Public Enemy," for publication until Kubec Glasmon and John Bright, the authors, objected to the publishers' attempted revisions.

The authors sold it to Warners, with Grossett & Dunlap now getting out a picture edition of the gangster film.

Boys have a five-year WB contract.

Real Names of Authors:

Maxim Gorky, "The Magnet," is Alexi Maximovich Pyeshoff. Ethel M. Dell, "Storm Drift," is Mrs. G. T. Savage. Anthony Berkeley, "The Second Shot," is Anthony Berkeley Cox.

W-T Rate up to $1

N. Y. World-Telegram has increased its amusement line rate to $1. Second boost, the rate having gone from 85 to 90c when the two p.m. papers were merged.

Run of the paper rate may not be changed at this time. Understood large advertisers were tipped before the merger was made and entered into a year's contract. Some are said to have the old base rate of 50c per line. No term contracts on show advertising.

Legit Publicity Subjects

Paucity of publicity subjects on the Broadway legit stage is seen in the quality and quantity of the matter now being employed by dramatic editors for their Sunday departments. Notwithstanding the trend of the Sunday dramatic pages of late has been toward the picture blah style and the hooey of the film fan mags, the actual material now used for filling or padding out the drama pages could not have gotten past a copy boy 10 years ago.

This all seems to say that the d. e. must estimate his paper's current readers of the legit are of the same sappy level as the picture bugs.

Gannett Film Campaign

Newspapers in the Gannett string are preparing to campaign against commercial pictures.

Martin Dicksteen led the attack with a story in last Sunday's Brooklyn "Eagle," hitting at both the advertising picture and hidden ads in regular releases.

The papers have arranged to be supplied with lists of motion pictures of both classes.

E. V. Durling, former Hollywood scenarist, is operating a town talk column for Paul Block's Los Angeles Express.

Sidney Cook, former editor of "Collier's," "Cosmopolitan" and "Leslie's," is in Hollywood on spec.

London Show World

(Continued from page 61)

ion, British International is looking round for more scripts with the appeal of the unusual.

Front Page and Censors

Understood here the United Artists' release "Front Page" came in for censor trouble with likelihood of the opening at the Tivoli being held up.

Legits

Box-office health here is much better than expected, climatic conditions, uniformly showery, being partly responsible. Hits are holding up, new shows worth while are settling down and the same old flops are dropping out.

Adelphi — "Evergreen." Cochran spectacular musical now tottering.

Aldwych—"Marry the Girl." Lower than usual Aldwych farce standard, but small overhead makes still profitable.

Ambassadors — "To See Ourselves." Coming off.

Apollo — "The New Gossoon." Irish comedy, transferring to Duchess, with only slight chance, even under new name.

Cambridge — "Chauve-Souris." Retained extra month, with moderate business.

Coliseum — "White Horse Inn." Matter of traffic blocks; biggest money taker in town.

Comedy — "Naughty Cinderella." Coming off.

Criterion — "After All." Van Druten's play still among successes.

Daly's — "Belle of New York." Revival, surprise of lot. Doing very good.

Drury Lane—"Song of the Drum." Coming off after falling away.

Garrick—"My Wife's Family." Lotinga farce just breaking even, with expensive advertising allotment.

Globe—"Improper Duchess." One of biggest hits.

Haymarket — "Five Farthings." Marie Tempest in new piece so far on the thin side.

Hippodrome — "Stand Up and Sing." Jack Buchanana leading field in this class.

His Majesty's — "Saint Joan." Shaw revival moderate, coming off after month with Priestley's "Good Companions" in.

Lyceum — "Bitter Sweet." Parting month of this musical made good biz at big house with popular prices.

Little—"The Venetian." Transferring to Apollo leaving Maurice Browne without rep subject.

Lyric — "Autumn Crocus." New piece which looks like business.

New — "Tantivy Towers." Moved in from Hammersmith and so far wondering about it.

Piccadilly — "Folly to Be Wise." High salaried musical making money.

Playhouse — "Church Mouse." Gerald du Maurier in new piece preceded By Gillie Potter for those who may not like it.

Queen's — "Barretts of Wimpole Street." Leading field in the heavy class.

Royalty — King's Messenger." Martin Harvey in meller which needs oiling. Not much chance.

Savoy — "Wonder Bar." One of those funny things, and just about evens.

Shaftesbury—"Mr. Faint-Heart." New Ian Hay comedy with Basil Foster, and likely to settle to success.

St. Martin's — "Black Coffee." New thriller, put in after trial in the suburbs, so far breaking smoothly, helped by authoress' name.

Strand — "It's a Boy." Leslie Henson raising eyebrows to capacity houses.

Vaudeville — "The Circle." Revival of Maugham play, doing fairly well.

Victoria Palace — "Chelsea Follies." Second edition as profitable as first.

Whitehall—"Good Losers." Hackett and Arlen's, just about evens, with perhaps bit to spare.

Wyndham's — "Jack o' Lantern." New thriller, not so good as Edgar Wallace's, and without a chance.

Team in Cabaret

Leslie Bloom, president of the Gallery First Nighters club, was instrumental in introducing Arthur Klein, song writer, and Josephine Trix, resulting in the two teaming up and opening in cabaret shortly.

E. A. Pickering, who was formerly manager for Jack Buchanan and who entered suit against the comedy hoofer recently, with the trial for hearing this month, has settled the action out of court for $5,000.

In Studios

Studio activity in the talker field round London is more intense these days.

RKO's English outfit on "Sally in Our Alley," Gracie Fields talker.

British International has "The House Opposite," thriller; "The Limping Man," thriller; "Fascination," one of those things, and "The Lovelorn Lady," equally ditto, all on the floors, with "Rich and Strange" and "Carmen" both down shortly, while about three more are in advanced script stages.

Monty Banks has shot up "My Wife's Family," from the stage farce, and is cutting.

International still has "The Flying Fool" shelved while waiting for decent weather in which to box its remaining exteriors. Just one of the things you have to reckon with this side.

Gainsborough hot with "Happy" Hunter making a meller at Islington, and Hiscott making a thriller (untitled) at Twickenham, while "The Ghost Train," stage thriller, and three Bobbie Howes talkers are overdue on the allocation sheet.

This unit is tied up with the American production of "On the Spot."

Through mergers and production agreements the field here is narrowing down until soon there'll only be the British International and the Gaumont British camps.

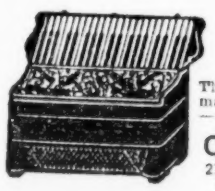
For the rest, the indies just continue torturing a spot of raw stock and hope for the best.

Alice Cocea's Divorce

Paris, April 26.

The Countess de la Rochfoucauld is suing her husband for a divorce.

Her stage name is Alice Cocea, which she retained after her marriage, continuing on the stage.



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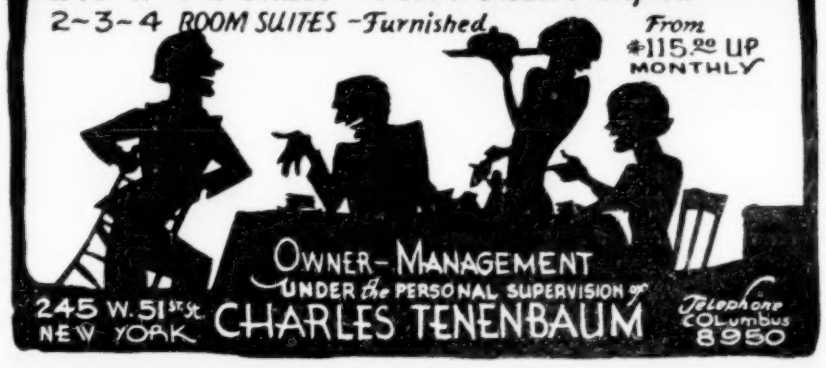
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